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MRS. HARDCASTLE.—Ay, *your* times were fine times, indeed. . . I hate such old fashioned trumpery.

MR. HARDCASTLE.—And I love it. I love everything that's old : old friends, old times, old manners, old books, old wine.

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LONDON: ELLIOT STOCK, 62, PATERNOSTER ROW, E.C.

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BYE-GONES FOR 1886.

NOTES, QUERIES, and REPLIES, on subjects interesting to Wales and the Borders, must be addressed to EDITOR, "Bye-Gones" Caxton Press, Oswestry. Real names and addresses must be given in confidence, and MSS. must be written legibly, on one side of the paper only.

OSWESTRY ADVERTIZER, JAN. 6, 1886.

NOTES.

KING GEORGE III. AND THE BEAUTIES OF MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—The following extract from "The Bland Burges Papers" is interesting. The house at which Sir James Bland Burges was living was Nantcribba, near Forden:—On the 26th of February, 1788, Mr Burges was honoured at the Levée by the King's special notice. His Majesty asked how long he had been in town and was answered "Since the meeting of Parliament, sir." "Where was you before you came to town?" "In Montgomeryshire, sir." "Oh, but I mean where did you pass the summer?" "At my own house in Montgomeryshire, sir." "What part of the county do you live in?" "In the centre of the vale, sir." "I am told that it is a very beautiful country." "Extremely so, sir." "They say it is the prettiest spot in the island." "I think it is, sir." "Did you ever see a prettier place in England?" "I don't think I ever did, sir." "Did you ever see so pretty a place any where else?" "Never, sir, except the Tyrolese Alps and the Lago Maggiore." "Those are very pretty places I believe, but yours is certainly a beautiful country." O.

QUERIES.

GAVELL COED Y FREE.—What is the meaning of the above phrase? A SAXON.

PLYGAIN.—Is there any place within the limits of the circulation of your journal where this old service is now continued, I mean in the Parish Church? CAROL.

ROMAN HOUSES IN BRITAIN.—Is there any book extant which gives a description of an ordinary Roman house, such as might have been built, say, for a farmer? Has the remains of such a structure been discovered in Shropshire or Montgomeryshire? CLAWDD COCH.

LLEWELLYN.—Are there any particular districts in Wales, where the family name of Llewellyn is common? I wish more particularly to have information as to the Border Counties. Kirkdale.

J.D.

REPLIES.

THE OLD WELSH CIRCUITS (Dec. 23, 1885).—I believe the old Welsh sessions or circuits numbered four: two for North Wales and two for South. In the "good old times" the laws spiritual and material were pretty well left in the hands of those terrible and iniquitous rulers "the Lords Marcher." These despotic local or county rulers exacted all sorts and conditions of service from the freeholders, and it is to King Henry VIII. that Welshmen are indebted for the curtailing of the extensive powers held and exercised by these despotic chiefs of old. Thus it came about that a *President and Council of the Marches of Wales* was established in Henry VIII.'s reign, principally at the suit of Sir John Price, of the Priory, Brecknock, to whom Henry lent a willing ear, and "therefore at the humble suit and petition of his subjects of Wales" (as the statute of the 34th and 35th of his reign recites) "out of his abundant goodness" he caused several regulations to be enacted as to the mode and practice of administering the laws in Wales; the principal of which was the establishing and confirming the jurisdiction of the President and Council of the Marches of Wales, and also of the *Court of Great Sessions* appointed to be held in every shire twice a year before one justice, which court was to have a concurrent authority with that of the Lord President and the Council, and to continue six days in every shire at each of such sessions. By 18th Elizabeth, c. 8, at the petition of the inhabitants, another judge was appointed for each circuit in Wales. I can give you the details of the "Brecon Circuit," which comprised the counties of Glamorgan, Brecon, and Radnor: possibly other contributors to your valuable column can do the same for the other Welsh circuits. It should be observed that these Justices of Great Sessions used to recommend for the appointment of high sheriff in each county. The list of judges on the Brecon Circuit is as follows:—

- 1578 George King and Francis Yate.
Edmund Walter of Ludlow, esq., obiit 1592.
- 1600 John Croke, esq.
- 1615 Sir Walter Pye and Andrew Powell, esq.
- 1635 Sir Walter Pye and Walter Rumsey, esq.
- 1637 Walter Rumsey, esq., and Sir Marmaduke Lloyd,
Knt.
- 1647 John Eltonhed, serjeant at law, and John Parker.
- 1649 John Eltonhed, serjeant at law, and John Norbury.
- 1653 John Corbet, esq.
- 1656 John Corbet, esq., and Wm. Foxurst. Spring sessions.
- 1659 John Corbet, esq. Autumn sessions.

1660. Sir Richard Lloyd. Spring sessions.
 1661. Sir Richard Lloyd and Arthur Trevor. Autumn Sessions.
 1667. Sir Thomas Lloyd and Thomas Streete. Spring Sessions.
 1676. Sir Thomas Streete, serjeant at law, and Owen Wynne, esq.
 1681. Robert Wright, serjeant at law, and Owen Wynne, serjeant at law.
 1685. Owen Wynne, serjeant at law, and John Powel.
 1686. Owen Wynne, serjeant at law, and Thomas Geeres. Autumn Sessions.
 1689. William Pawlett and Edward Smith. Spring Sessions.
 1700. William Pawlett, Spring Sessions. William Pawlett and Edward Smith, Autumn Sessions.
 1701. William Pawlett and Robert Price. Spring Sessions.
 1702. William Pawlett and Charles Cox. Autumn Sessions.
 1704. Charles Cox and William Bannastre, serjeant at law. Spring Sessions.
 1712. Charles Cox and William Brydges.
 1715. William Wright and Edward Whitaker.
 1719. William Hawkins, deputy for William Wright.
 1720. William Wright and Edward Whitaker, serjeant at law. Died March 8, 1720.
 1720. Richard Carter and Edmund Probyn. Autumn Sessions.
 1728. Richard Carter and John Verney.
 1732. Richard Carter and Henry Proctor.
 1744. Richard Carter. Autumn Sessions.
 1745. Richard Carter and John Hervey.
 1753. John Hervey. Spring Sessions.
 1755. John Williams and John Hervey. Spring Sessions. (In this year the first agricultural society in Wales was started at Brecknock, and Mrs. Siddons was also born in the same town.)
 1758. John Williams. Spring Sessions.
 1759. John Williams and John Hervey. Spring Sessions.
 1765. John Williams and John Richmond Webb. Spring Sessions.
 1766. John Williams and William Whitaker. Spring Sessions.
 1778. John Williams and Abel Moysey, esq. Spring Sessions.
 1787. George Hardinge and Abel Moysey, esq. Autumn Sessions.

Here my list ends, and there is a blank to the year 1832. Judge Hardinge continued to be "the hon. chief justice on the Brecon Circuit," and Judge Moysey "one of the hon. judges on the Brecon Circuit" till 1805, for they both appear as subscribers to Theo: Jones's *Brecknockshire*, the first volume of which was published in that year. Judge Hardinge also presided at the Brecknock Assizes that commenced on August 14, 1809. I am not lawyer enough to say when the Welsh Assize system was assimilated with the English, and the "South Wales Circuit" established. The works of Judge Hardinge were published in 1818, but whether before or after his death I cannot say. E. P.
 Brecknock.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Society for Utilizing the Welsh Language, whose president is Archdeacon Griffiths, is about to publish a graduated series of Welsh text books, suitable for use in schools or by private students.

RUXTON-XI-TOWNS CASTLE.—The excavations which have been made about this fortress have now ceased, and, no subterranean passages having been discovered, all will be leveled and filled in again.

JANUARY 13, 1886.

NOTES.

COUNCIL OF THE MARCHES. (Jan. 6, 1886).—E. P. gives Henry VIII. the credit of establishing the Council of the Marches, but the date is April 10th, 1478.
 R. M.

OSWESTRY VOLUNTEERS OF BUONAPARTE'S TIME, EIGHTY YEARS AGO.—We were better supplied with Volunteers eighty years ago even than now, for we had three Companies: two of riflemen, and one of artillery. Of the two of riflemen, the Colonel was John Kynaston, Esq., of Hardwick Hall, and the Captains, N. Parker, Esq., of Sweeney, and Th. Kenyon, Esq., of Pradoc. Another officer was John Croxon, Esq.

These two Companies used to assemble on Sundays, one before the Bell, the other before the Green (Wynnstay Arms), about ten o'clock, just before church time, and then, with band playing, march to Maesyllan for drill until one o'clock. On week days they assembled at the Greenfield (a field near the turnpike in Pool road). Four flags carried by Nathan Davis, weaver, marked out the drill ground. First came the Pioneer, Dick Burnet, with his axe, saw, and leather apron. Another noted figure was the Fugleman, Thos. Davis, slater. He stood in front of the men, near the officer, bearing a gun. On receiving orders, he communicated them to the Companies by various movements of his gun, one of which was throwing it up and catching it again. There was a trumpeter in connection with the band named Ben Starch, or Ben Rogers.

The uniform of these Companies was red coats, knee breeches, and long black gaiters, and hats with very long feathers (white tipped with red), which were fastened to a piece of whalebone to make them nod.

The Bands, as far as I can remember, were composed of the following:—

Bandmaster and } Mr Ch. Eyeley, father of the present
 1st Clarionette } Mr C. Eyeley.
 2nd Clarionette, Wm Hughes, Shoemaker.
 3rd Clarionette, Samuel Jones, Painter.
 French Horn, Ed. Edwards, Unicorn Inn.
 Alto, Henry Evans, Bricklayer.
 Bassoon, Thos. Cureton, Shoemaker.
 Serpent, Geo. Rowe, Hatter.
 Tambourine, Thomas Cash, Slater.
 Bass Drum, Jno. Tomkins, Shoemaker.
 Drum and Fife Band—
 Fifers, Alex. Gilmour and Thomas Thomas.
 Drummer, Richard Hughes.

There were two reviews I remember: one held at Halston on a Sunday, the second on a week day in the

hollow between Old Oswestry and Llwyn Bank. Here a man was drummed out of the regiment for bad conduct. His coat was turned inside out, and to the strains of the band playing the Rogue's March he was marched down the field and turned into the road.

There was a third Company—an Artillery Corps, which met near the Coach and Dogs. The captain was Mr Bradbridge. Their uniform was blue. They drilled in Fox's craft behind the Barley Mow, and had two brass cannon captured so they said from Tippoo Sahib at Seringapatam. Old John Jones of Croeswyllan was a Sergeant in this Corps.

When these companies were disbanded they were formed into a local militia, and went to Shrewsbury once a year for a month's drill. This was because the regular Shropshire militia was on duty in the South of England owing to the French Revolution and Napoleon.

Penylan Lane, Oswestry. WILLIAM THOMAS.

QUERIES.

THE PARKERS OF SWEENEY.—I shall be glad to know through *Bye-Gones* whether "Sir Peter Parker, Bart., late admiral of the Fleet," was anywise related to the Parkers of Sweeney Hall. E.P.
Brecknock.

CHURCH LANDS, &c., IN MONTGOMERY-SHIRE.—Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* direct me to any work wherein I could see a schedule of the farms, mills, and separate parcels of land in the above-named county, which, once belonging to Monastic or Ecclesiastical Establishments, have been, since the days of Henry VIII., in the hands of lay owners? KERIST.

REPLIES.

WELSH AND ENGLISH TENURES (Oct. 7, 1885).—In Pennant's *Tour in Wales* there are some lengthy extracts inserted—copied from a Treatise (borrowed from Thomas Lloyd of Overton, Esq.,) on the Lordships Marchers in Wales. It would appear from this treatise that the Kings of England, seeing it difficult to make a conquest of Wales by a great army, gave to the lords, and other great men of England, such countries in Wales as they could win from the Welshmen. These are the words of divers of their grants. That the lords might the better govern the people when subdued they were suffered to take upon them such prerogative and authority as were fit for the quiet government of the country. No record is to be found in the Tower or elsewhere, of any grant to be a Lordship Marcher in Wales. The lords held their lordships of the Kings of England in chief, as of the crown immediate, by serving the King in his wars with certain numbers of men; and they were bound to keep their castles with sufficient men and munition for the keeping of the king's enemies in subjection. They executed the English laws for the most part within their Lordships, and brought them to be of English tenure, and to pass the same according to the laws of England, by fine, recovery, feoffment, and livery of seisin. But such parts as they left to the ancient inhabitants to possess, were by some lords suffered to be held after the old

Welsh custom, the laws of *Howel Dda*; which was to pass the same by surrender in court (which they called *Côf Lys*, and *Ystyn Wiaden*, whereof the word *Ystynol* was derived); and where that custom was permitted there is no deed to be found of any lands before the 27th of Henry VIII., when Wales was made shire-ground; but for such lands as were turned to English tenures, you may find deeds of two, three, or four hundred years past (1790), written in Latin or French, as was used in England in those days. The laws of England were brought in by the lord marchers, because the laws of the land were unknown to the English; but they suffered the antient tenants to retain some part of the old Welsh laws, such as the use of gavel kind, for parting lands between brothers by surrender in Court. And for this, in many lordships, there was a Welsh Court for the Welshmen, called *Welcherie*; and another for the English called *Englishrie*. In some lordships the lands were divided by gavel kind, but passed by feoffments, whence comes *English* tenure, and *Welsh* dole; in Welsh *Cyfraith* *Saesnig*, a *Rhan-Cymraig*. And the lords had the wardship of all the brethren as if they had been sisters. No Lordship Marcher could have been erected after the death of Llewelyn ap Grifflith, last Prince of Wales, who was slain in the 11th year of Edward I. A KELT.

CURRENT NOTES.

There have been rejoicings at Llanymawddwy in celebration of the Queen having conferred the honour of knighthood upon Dr William Roberts, F.R.S., of Manchester and of Bryn, Llanymawddwy.

Her Majesty has approved of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry being permitted to bear the words "Suakim, 1885" upon the colours or appointments, in commemoration of the operations in the vicinity of Suakim.

An interesting discovery of bronze hatchets and other warlike instruments has been made at Lantwit Major, Glamorganshire. A number of workmen were engaged digging up a foundation for building, when they came upon three spearheads, six hatchet-like celts, and several other interesting relics, which were concealed under an ancient wall; some bones were also discovered. The whole matter is under investigation, and a further search is being organised.

Two young couples were lately married at an Eisteddfod at Porth in the Rhondda Valley. They had failed to keep their appointment with the Registrar, Mr Idris Williams, at the hour fixed, eight o'clock in the morning, and the proceedings of an Eisteddfod which was being held at the Baptist Chapel were suspended in order that the ceremony might be performed, and the couples were married on the platform to the surprise and amusement of the assembly. Mr A. Thomas, M.P., the President of the Eisteddfod, signed the register as a witness, and the newly-married folks left the building amidst the enthusiastic cheers of the audience.

A BITTERN.—On Tuesday, January 12, a very fine Bittern, measuring 3ft. 9in. from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other, was shot on Whixall Moss by Mr Brown of Bettisfield. The bird is in very good plumage and has been handed over to Mr C. W. Lloyd, Ellesmere, for the purpose of being preserved. It is some years since one has been shot in that neighbourhood.

THE LATE SIR WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN.—The magistrates of Merionethshire intend to have a copy of the late baronet's picture painted and hung up in the Bala Town Hall. Colonel Evans-Lloyd, the honorary secretary of the movement, has received a letter from Lady Williams Wynn expressing her gratification.

THE HON. FRANCES WYNN, eldest daughter of Lord Newborough, died on Tuesday, January 5, having survived her third sister, the Hon. Catherine Wynn, exactly four weeks. The deceased lady had been an invalid for some years. The funeral took place on Monday, at Llandwrog Church, near Carnarvon.

MR LEIGHTON'S GIFT TO THE OSWESTRY TOWN COUNCIL. The engravings presented by Mr Stanley Leighton, M.P., to the Town Council have been hung on the walls of the Council chamber over the fire-place. The following is a list of the titles of them:—No. 1.—Elizabethæ Dei Gratia Angliæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ, Regina. Book of Constitutions, 24th Elizabeth, 1582. No. 2.—William Rex, (Engraved from a drawing by Sir Thomas Lawrence,) Municipal Corporation Act, 4th William IV., 1835. No. 3.—Richard II, Rex Angliæ. 1st Royal Charter, 22nd Richard II., 1399. No. 4.—2nd Royal Charter, 14th James I., 1617. No. 5.—3rd Royal Charter, 25th Charles II., 1674. No. 6.—Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen. (From a drawing executed by special command for Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent by R. I. Lane, A.R.A., and engraved by F. C. Lewis.) Restoration of the Court of Quarter Sessions, 5th Victoria, 1842.

JANUARY 20, 1886.

NOTES.

SATIRICAL ALMANACS.—WELSH.—In an article by Mr H. R. Plower, in January number of "Walford's Antiquarian" on "Satirical Almanacs," the first of which appears to have been the handiwork of one Thomas Dekker, which he published in 1609, Mr Plower refers to a Welsh Almanac in the following words:—

"Shon-ap-Lewis. The Welshman's New Almanacke and Prognostications, and Presages and Predictions for this present year, 1648.

"Likewise giving notice to all good peoples to beware of the danger that will befall them, if they take not heed in good time Wherein, if there be found any one lye, her will be content to lose her credit for ever,

"Withall, Her do forbid to have any Red Letters to be printed in her Almanack, because her doe not love the Red Colour, never since her lost see much of her Red Blood at Severall fights in England.

'Let Booker, Lilly, Wharton, and the rest
Contend who writes the truest, and the best;
Reader when this Welsh Almanack thou viewest
Thou'lt finde it full as true, as he that's truest.'

"This work consisted only of a Chronological Table and a Judgement of the four seasons and the eclipses. It abounded in lewd allusions and the wit was very poor."

A BOOKWORM.

GRANTS OF WILLIAM III. (Dec. 16, 1885.)—
"Feb. 1689. A Grant unto Henry, Lord Delamere, of severall Lands and Hereditaments in ye county of Monmouth and Hereford of ye yearly value of £459 wth ye

severall summs of £300 and £10 all found by Inquisition to be settled upon Popish and Superstitious uses Habend ye Money without acc^t and such part of ye Lands and Promisses w^{ch} are fee simple or held for any term of years to endure for 31 years and more, for ye term of 31 years from ye making of this Grant, and to hold such other parts w^{ch} are held for life or lives or determinable upon ye death of any person or persons without issue for ye term of 31 years, if such Interest respectively shall so long continue, and to hold such other parts of ye s^d Lands and Premisses as are held for any term less then 31 years during ye continuance of such Termes, paying £5 p. ann. into ye Exchequer."

"Deber. 1690. A Grant unto S^r Thos. Wilbraham, his Heirs and Assignees, of ye Reversion in ye Crown of ye Lords'pp and Manors of Longondale and Mottram wth their appertinences in ye County of Chester, under ye yearly Rents formerly reserved for ye same after ye determinⁿ of ye Estate Tayle therein granted by ye late Queen Mary to Richard Wilbraham, Esq., and ye heirs males of his body." VERAX.

AN OSWESTRY SCHOOL IN 1727.—In "Magna Britannia" Vol. iv, p. 704, the following curious account of an Oswestry School, mentioned briefly in *Bye-Gones* in 1876, appears:—

"Oswestry, a school for forty children, of which twenty are clothed, and all of them taught by a Mistress to read, and by her obliged to give an Account of Mr Lewis's Exposition, and the Abridgment of the History of the Bible by Heart; besides Mr Turner's Spelling-book and the Catechism divided into short Questions. And when any child can perform all this, the Mistress, for Labour and Encouragement, hath a reward of Seven shillings and sixpence allowed her.

When the Boys are made perfect to their Reading, and can in some tolerable Measure perform the former things, they are sent to a Master, who is to teach them to write and Cypher, by an Agreement of five shillings per head which is to be paid as soon as they have made such a Progress in them as the Minister of the Town for the time being, judgeth sufficient for their purpose.

Some part of the number are girls, and they are taught to spin, knit and sew, in which when they are perfected, the Mistress is allowed ten shillings each; and that she may be the more diligent and careful to teach them, let the time be long or short in which they are taught, the allowance is always the same.

Divers ingenious Methods are made use of in this School (worthy to be imitated in others) to provoke the children to such emulation, as may put them forward in their learning, viz.: Twenty of them are set to strive against other twenty for shoes, and the twenty that gets most of the Exposition and other books by heart have shoes first; and then ten more are set against other ten; and so on till they are shod round.

To the like purpose a shift is hung up in the school for the best Spinner; an head-dress for the best Sewer; a pair of stockings for the best Knitter, a Bible for the best Writer. This School is supported by subscriptions of Twenty-one pounds per ann: and the Offertory at the Sacrament, which amounts to about nine pounds per ann: which by the Consent of the Minister and Churchwardens is thus employed for the good of the

poor. Mr Owen, Vicar of this parish, lately deceased, was, while he lived, a zealous promoter of this School and left £20 towards the foundation of it. PEARMAIN.

QUERIES.

CWRW.—Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* oblige by giving a quotation from the early Welsh poets, or any other source exhibiting at what period this popular beverage is first recorded as having been known to the Welsh people? CURIOUS.

KPYHTA'ΔIA.—Recueil de Documents pour servir à l'étude des Traditions Populaires—Heilbronn Hennings Frères, Editions 1884. (Tous droits réservés.) Can any inform me who the writer of the article in Vol. 2 on "Welsh Edceology" is? W.P.

WILLIAM PENN A WELSHMAN.—In the January (1886) part of *The Quiver* I find the following:—"Wm. Penn came of a notable family—the Penns of Buckinghamshire, who trace their descent, as he himself has recorded, from a Welshman of position, John Tudor, who came to be called John Pennmunnith, and then John Penn, because he lived on the top of one of the Welsh mountains." The writer of the article is thus provokingly generalistic. The fixing of the locality "on the top of one of the Welsh mountains" is delicious. Can any of your readers "particularise" this John Tudor? E.P.

Brecknock.

REPLIES.

WELSH COURTS OF EXCHEQUER (Dec. 23, 1885).—In reply to "H.W.L.," I would say that evidently under the Lords Marcher system Courts of Exchequer were common to every district over which these "Ancient Tyrants" ruled, and even in later times such local Courts existed. When the "Marches" which now form the county of Brecknock were so formed, King Henry VIII. enacted that Brecknock "shall be considered the Shire town, that the County Court shall be held there, and in order to save the inhabitants the trouble and expense of making their payments to the Crown at Westminster, a Court of Chancery and Exchequer was appointed to be held at the King's Castle of Brecknock, where the Sheriffs of Breconshire and Radnorshire were to account before his auditor or proper officer." E.P.

Brecknock.

PLYGAIN (Jan. 6, 1886).—The Plygain is still continued at my native hamlet of Llanerfyl, and is held in the Parish Church at 4 a.m. on Christmas morning, and always has been from time immemorial. The church on this occasion is always crowded to excess. I have known people to walk ten miles to attend these services, and I have heard fifteen carols sung after the service. The service and the singing are always conducted with due solemnity. At Llangadfan and Garthbeibio, in the same valley, the Plygain is held at 6 p.m. on Christmas Day; and to show how popular the Plygain is in that part, I recollect a few years ago that the news got abroad that the Rector of Llanerfyl, the late Rev. Joseph McIntosh was anxious to discontinue it on Christmas

morning owing to some disturbances that had taken place. But Churchmen and Dissenters all stood out against it, and the service was allowed to go on as usual.

DIE O'R DRYM.

[The Plygain is still observed in many parts of Wales, and also on the English Border, including Oswestry. —ED.]

CURRENT NOTES.

A writer in *Notes and Queries* reproduces a list, from the *Morning Herald* of Aug. 6, 1782, of "Amusements that ye following men of fashion principally delight in." Amongst them we find "Sir W. W. Wynne, acting."

The death is announced of the Rev. Charles Griffith, M.A., Prebendary of St. David's, at his residence, Glyn Celyn, Brecknockshire. Mr Griffith, who was a magistrate for the county of Brecknock, had been four times married.

The *North Wales Chronicle* has resumed the publication of "Leaves from our early issues." Among the extracts between February 29 and April 11, 1816, is the following:—"The freeholders and farmers of Montgomeryshire met on Monday to take into consideration the depressed state of agriculture, which is indeed felt with peculiar severity in the Principality."

The Rev William Gilson Humphry, prebendary of St. Paul's, and for 30 years vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, died last week. Mr Humphry was the eldest son of Mr W. Humphry, of Sudbury, Suffolk, barrister-at-law, and had very nearly completed his 71st year. In early life he was one of the most distinguished scholars of Dr Butler, the head-master of Shrewsbury School. He became second Chancellor's medallist, senior classic, and 27th Wrangler at Trinity College, Cambridge, and in 1838 was elected a Fellow of Trinity. The deceased was the author of several works.

"Tantara" writing in the *Field* says that on January 12 he saw a fine specimen of the marsh harrier, near Oswestry. The bird seemed entirely brown. Its flight was sluggish and awkward, though it turned smartly at its prey. It was coming along a recently planted narrow plantation, beating as systematically as a pointer, and its appearance caused great excitement amongst the small birds, who seemed to know their natural enemy. This was the first specimen the writer ever saw in Shropshire, although Yarell mentions that county as one of the counties where the marsh harrier has been seen. "Tantara" also adds:—"I also saw a greater spotted woodpecker three weeks ago near here."

The following curious announcement of marriage appeared in a Chester paper of the last century:—"A few days ago was married at St. Bridget's Church, in Chester, Mr George Harding, aged one hundred and seven, to Mrs Catherine Woodward, aged eighty-three. So singular a union could not fail of exciting the admiration and surprise of a numerous congregation, before whom the ceremony was performed. The bridegroom served in the army thirty-nine years, during the reigns of Queen Anne, George I., and part of George II. He is now particularly hearty, in great spirits, and retains all his faculties to an extraordinary perfection. This is his fifth wife; the last one he married in his hundred and fifty year; and he is Mrs Woodward's fourth husband. It is also worthy of observation that the above old man's diet has been for the last thirty years past chiefly buttermilk boiled with a little flour, and bread and cheese."

JANUARY 27, 1886.

NOTES.

HAILSTONES LARGER THAN TENNIS BALLS.
 Anno 1556, 26 July was such tempest of Raine and healestones in the parish of Llanraiad that the like was never scene beefore bigger than Tennis balls and beate downe the corne and broke the straw all to peeces that the had no gool of the corne in hope that god would send them corne next yeare after for that yeare they had none and the same day came the Lord Lumley and my Lady his wife daughter to Henry Earl of Arundell to Whittington and the morrow after to the Towne of Oswestree and there did make merry all that day beinge 2 & 3 of King Phillip and Mary (Harl: MS. 1970 fo. 94.)

BORDERER.

MOTTOES OF BARDIC CHAIRS.

Isle of Britain—Truth against the World.
 Glamorgan or Siluria—God and all Goodness.
 Round Table of Arthur, of Taliesin, and of Tir Iarll—
 Nothing is truly good which may be excelled.
 Powys—Who slays shall be slain.
 Gwynedd (VeneLOTIA)—Jesus.
 Deheubarth (South Wales)—Heart to heart.
 Dyvnaint (Devon)—Nothing is for ever that is not for ever and ever.
 Urien Rheged (Loughor)—Truth will have its place.
 Raglan—Awake! it is day. A BOOKWORM.

THE SHREWSBURY HOUSE OF INDUSTRY, 1794.—Amongst the items in the Chronicle of the *Annual Register* for 1794, is the following under the date of December:—A statement has lately appeared concerning the House of Industry at Shrewsbury, for the last ten years; by which the gentlemen who superintend this excellent institution prove, that the reduction of the expense of maintaining the poor of that place, in that period, is upwards of £16,000, besides a balance of £2,475 now in hand in favour of the house. Before this new system of management was adopted, the poor's rates of the united parishes in Shrewsbury amounted to £4,605 per annum. On its establishment they were immediately reduced to £2,992, at which sum they have continued ever since. But another benefit has arisen, of infinitely greater importance than the pecuniary savings; which is the wise plan adopted for improving the morals of the poor, by training up the children in habits of cleanliness, industry and virtue. The best families are now solicitous to obtain servants from the House of Industry; and as soon as the children grow up fit for places, they find a preference to any other servants that are to be hired.

SCORRERS BYRIG.

QUERIES.

CAPTAIN HARDINGE.—Can anyone say whether Captain Geo. Nicholas Hardinge was a relative of Judge Hardinge, one of the later judges on the old Brecon circuit?

Brecknock.

E.P.

EDWARD LLWYD, THE WELSH ANTIQUARY.
 At a visit to the British Museum this year I was inspecting the Stowe MSS., recently purchased from the

Earl of Ashburnham, and among them discovered a letter from Edward LLwyd written to Mr John Anstis, dated 21 October, 1700. The following is an extract from the letter which begins by stating that LLwyd was in Cornwall, and had succeeded in drawing up a vocabulary of Cornish. He then proceeds to ask his friend various questions as to the Cotton MS., which it appears Anstis was searching. He asks him to ascertain—

"1. The first & last words of Giraldu's Topographie 1300 Wallie and how large?

2. To & from whom are ye Letters concerning matters betwn. ye. years 1200 & 1300?

3. What Original Charters besides H 2 to Monogomery? [Sic]

4. What in yt. that concerns Offa's Dyke?

5. Some short Act. of ye ordinances abt. Snowdon.

6. How large is that Answer of ye Abbot of Bangor, and what are ye excerpta?

7. Was ye Historia Magna Armoricana ever printed? And what these?

8. What do ye Collectanea de Wallia consist of?

9. A catalogue of what is that of Giraldu's?

10. Vocab. Latino Wallia. How large? & does it appear when writ or by whom written?

11. What is that of Arianus Bp. of St. Asaph. How large is ye Chronicon Landavense & the initial & finl. words?

Versus Wallia. The first & last lines, & how many.

Lib. Caerdiff, ye 1st & last words, & how large.

What ye Transcripta de Episcop. Menev. consist of.

All ye Welsh Law Books yr. Letter mentions are in Hengwrt Library, and copies of them among ye late Sir Wm. Wms. Manuscripts. I find I can but just save ye post & I subscribe my self yr. most obliged humble sert., E. LLWYD."

Can any of the readers of *Bye-Gones* answer some of these questions as to the Cotton MSS.? Is the writer LLwyd the LLwyd to whom Llanforda belonged, and whose coat of arms is to be seen on what is now called LLwyd House at the bottom of Bailey-street? I presume the Cotton MSS. are in the British Museum now.

OSWR.

LLWYD'S ODE.—The following is the copy of a letter addressed to Mr Humphrey Thomas, school-master at Aberffraw, Anglesea, No. 3:—

1787.

Pen y Bont nos lun 10 or gloch.

Dr. Brother,—Yours I have recd., please to accept of my sincere thanks for ye contents of ye same, as to my behaviour I wish to behave not like a scholar (because I am not worthy to be so called) but as a Christian, as a true penitent sinner. O that I might be enabled to live continually under the direction of God's holy word and ye influence of his Spirit, and avoid all the ways of profaneness, &c. That LLwyd whoever he is, is a good poet and I hope a good Christian, as you have very rightly observed his mind is enlightened, and his heart is full of tenderness and sensibility, and I really believe that his heart is not brought to that pitch of tenderness by the mere advantage of learning only; but his noble sentiments, and moving tenderness is the effects of Divine grace, his muse instead of "descending from on high" as it

is mentioned in ye ode hath presumed "to the Heaven of Heavens, and drawn Impyrean air," but I am not a critic in ye English language, you know, neither do I aspire to ye title, yet you'll allow me the liberty to bestow my poor encomiums on my favourite Llwyd. I wish you would transcribe the MS. you mentioned, or if you can, keep it in your custody, till I shall have ye pleasure of seeing you, which I hope will be very soon. I have been in a very low spirited condition & melancholy mood, this last week. I am very much disheartened, & do not know how to pass ye remainder of my days. How can I escape the stings and arrows of outrageous fortune!! The air of providence is gloomy, and the vast meanders of fate dark and intricate. Nid oes llenac amser i ymhelaethu.

D. THOMAS.

P.S.—Yr oeddwyn yn meddwl cymmyrd y llythyr . . . frasnaddiad ni feddaf ddim papur arall.

On the back is written (I presume by the school-master)—Recd. 5th Feby., 1787. Relates to Llwyd's Ode and several serious Reflections 1787.

Can any of the contributors to *Bye-Gones* supply any further information as to the author and subject of the foregoing letter?

B.

REPLIES.

LEWELLYN (Jan. 6, 1886).—In reply to "J. D." a friend informs me that this is a common surname in several districts in Glamorganshire—at Aberavon, Briton Ferry, and Taibach.

J. H. J.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Rev. W. Pierce, Calvinistic Methodist Minister, of Mold, died last week, aged eighty-one.

The Rev W. Hicks-Owen, vicar of Treveirchion, and senior vicar choral of St. Asaph, died on Wednesday, aged eighty-five.

The following is an epitaph at Almondbury, of which the Rev Canon Hulbert has recently published the annals:—

The Lord in Church, his "lower room,"
Long heard him lead the choir;
Then called him to his heavenly home,
"Come, faithful servant, higher."

The following is among "Leaves from our early issues," in the *North Wales Chronicle* (April 11, to May 9, 1816):—The very great exertions that have of late years been made in most of the towns in the Principality situate near the sea to give every facility and to afford every accommodation for sea bathing must, we are persuaded, cause a great influx of fashionable company during the ensuing summer. It had been frequently regretted that Pwllheli was very deficient in this respect; we, however, can now assert that every defect is removed, embankments have been formed, and such other great improvements effected as must in future place Pwllheli within the list of fashionable bathing places.

The Rev Chancellor Phillips, vicar of Aberystwyth, has accepted the rectory of Letterston with Llanfair Nantgof, Pembrokeshire, which became vacant on the death of the Rev D. O. James. The livings are worth about five hundred a year. Chancellor Phillips has been vicar of Aberystwyth for twenty-five years. Previous to his appointment to Aberystwyth Chancellor Phillips was Warden of Llandoverly College; was a Fellow of Christ

Church College, Cambridge; 18th Wrangler, 1849; was appointed vicar of Llanbadarn Fawr in 1861, and on Aberystwyth being separated from the parish he became its first vicar. He is Rural Dean of Llanbadarn Fawr, Canon Residentiary of St. David's, Proctor for the Chapters of the Cathedral, &c. The population of his new livings is comparatively small, being only about one-tenth that of Aberystwyth.

FEBRUARY 3, 1886.

NOTES.

A SHROPSHIRE LADY CHILD.—One of the most ancient observations respecting human life is that there are usually about three generations in a century, but it is well known that many more than this number of generations are occasionally seen in life at one time. Dr. Plot, in his *Natural History of Staffordshire* (1686) instances a woman of King's Bromley in that county, who lived to be a *beldam*—to see the sixth generation. As a proof of how far this case is from being difficult of comprehension he adduces the circumstances that a Lady Child of Shropshire being married at twelve, had her first baby before she was thirteen complete, and this being repeated in the second generation, Lady Child found herself a grandmother at twenty-seven! At the same rate she might have been a *beldam* at sixty-six.

Oswestry.

VERAX.

MARRIAGE FORTUNES.—It was the custom in the reign of George II., and even at a much later period, to insert at the end of marriage announcements the amount of the fortune which the bride carried with her. Thus, under 15th March, 1735, the *Gentleman's Magazine* records:—

"John Parry, Esq., of Carmarthenshire (married) to a daughter of Walter Lloyd, Esq., member for that county; a fortune of £8,000."

Nearer the close of the century such announcements were presented with less glaring precision. Witness the following, which appeared in the *Gazette* of January 5th, 1789:—

"Sunday se'nnight, at St. Aulkman's Church, Shrewsbury, A. Holbache, Esq., of Slowley Hill, near Coleshill, in this county, to Mrs. Ashby, of Shrewsbury, a very agreeable lady, with a good fortune."

VERAX.

Oswestry.

A QUAIN EPITAPH ON A PENNANT.—A writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for May, 1810, referring to St. Luke's, Chelsea, says—On the North wall of the Churchyard is a monument to the memory of John Pennant, second son of David Pennant, of the county of Flint, esq. (who was of the same family as Thomas Pennant, esq. of Downing, the celebrated Naturalist, too well known in the Literary world to need any eulogium here.) The Arms on the tomb are, three bars wavy; on the centre, three martlets, not blazoned. This coat was an ancient quartering of Pennant. With the following inscription:

Had virtue in perfection power to save
The best of men from the devouring grave,
Pennant had lived, but 't is in vain to crie
The fatal stroke, when all are doom'd to die.

Farewell, lov'd Spouse ! since want of words appears,
To express my grief, I'll mourn thy loss in tears,
Which like Nile's Cataracts shall tumble down,
And in their briny streams my passions drown.
Here may thy ashes undisturb'd remain,
Till thy wife's dust revisits thee again ;
Then sacred quiet, to the day of doom,
Seal the enclosure of our Catacom.

It is interesting in the same paper to read of Lady Jane Cheyne, who enlarged the church in 1667 and 1674, and whose family name is doubtless that which is perpetuated in "Cheyne Row," where Carlyle lived. E.

QUERIES.

ENGLISH COINS MINTED IN SHROPSHIRE.
Is there a list of coins (not tokens) minted in Shropshire by the Anglo-Saxon or other English Kings ?

PECUNIA.

RECORDS OF THE COURT OF THE MARCHES.
There must be somewhere an enormous mass of papers of great interest to Shropshire and the adjacent Welsh counties connected with this Court. Can any correspondent say where they are now ?

LEX.

REPLIES.

WILLIAM PENN A WELSHMAN (Jan. 20, 1886).—The Tudors of Penmynydd (spelt Penmunnith by Penn) gave their name to the Tudor line of sovereigns. Penmynydd is in Anglesey. Williams's "Eminent Welshmen" contains an account of the family.

BONWM.

The *Gwladgarwr* for 1839 (Sept. and Oct.) contains an extended biography of William Penn. With reference to his Welsh origin, the following passages occur therein :—"In the memorials of the city of Pennsylvania, compiled by John Watton . . . we read as follows :—One Hugh Dafydd [who it appears was a Montgomeryshire man] came to this country with Wm. Penn about the year 1700, and took up his residence at a place called Gwynedd, which is inhabited chiefly by Welshmen. . . . While on the voyage they became intimately acquainted with each other, and Penn observed to Dafydd :—'Hugh, I am a Welshman myself, and I will tell thee how our family lost their surname. My grandfather's name was Sion Tudor, who resided on a high hill or mountain in Wales, whence he was generally known as Sion-Pen-Mynydd. [This place is situate in Anglesey.] He removed from Wales to Ireland, where he became very wealthy. On his return to his native country his old friends and neighbours addressed him not as before, but as Mr Pen. He afterwards removed to London, where he settled, and was known as John Penn, which then became the family name.' . . . When Mr Thomas Penn (second son of Wm. Penn by his second wife) became Governor of the Colony in 1732, the following poetical address was presented to him by Mr Hugh Dafydd :—

'Lines addressed by Hugh Dafydd to Thomas Penn, of the royal line of Tudor.

For the love of him who now deceased be,
I salute his loyal one of three,
That ruleth here in glory so serene—
A branch o' Tudor, alias Thomas Penn.

From Anglesey, an isle in rich array,
There did a prince the British sceptre sway,
Out of that stem, I do believe no less,
There sprang a branch to rule this wilderness.
May Zion's King keep thy heart—Amen !
So I wish to all the race of Penn ;
That they may never of His favour miss,
Who is the door to everlasting bliss.'

In the second line of the first verse reference is made to the three sons of Wm. Penn, by Hannah Callowhill, his second wife, namely, John, Thomas, and Dennis . . . During the lifetime of Wm. Penn official favours were freely bestowed on Welshmen in the colony."

T.H.J.

THE OLD WELSH CIRCUITS (Jan. 6, 1886).—

Since writing my last note I have been enabled to find out that the old Welsh Circuit system ceased in the year 1830, by statute 1st William IV., c. 70. After Justices Hardinge and Moyses, the further appointments, up to the time of the abolition of the office, were—

- 1816. Justice William Wingfield (chief on the Circuit).
- 1819. Justice Robert Michael Casberd.
- 1824. Justice Michael Nolan (chief on the Circuit).
- 1828. Justice Nathaniel Gooding Clarke (chief on the Circuit).

Justices Nolan and Clarke were the last who held the appointment, which was one for life. The office was abolished, as already stated, in the year 1830.

The following biographical particulars of some of the justices may be found interesting, taken from old numbers of *The Gentleman's Magazine*, *The Annual Register*, and other sources :—

- 1701. *Mr Justice Price*.—Born 14th January, 1653 ; eldest son of Thomas Price, Esq., of Geeler, Denbighshire, educated at Wrexham Grammar School and St. John's College, Cambridge ; called to the bar at Lincoln's Inn about 1680 ; M.P. for Weobley 1685-8 ; Attorney-General of South Wales, 1690-1700 ; Recorder of Hereford, 1682-8 ; Steward to the Queen Catherine, 1684 ; King's Counsel, 1686-9 ; Serjeant-at-Law, June, 1702 ; Baron of the Court of Exchequer to October, 1726 ; afterwards Justice of the Common Pleas. He died 2nd February, 1732. He married in 1679, Lucy, daughter and co-heir of Robert Rodd, Esq. (see longer notice in Williams's *Eminent Welshmen*, p. p. 419-21.)
- 1704. *Sir William Bannister*.—Was Knighted in 1713 ; Baron of the Court of Exchequer, from which dignity he was dismissed on change of dynasty, in October, 1714.
- 1728. *Hon. John Verney*.—Second Justice on Brecon Circuit until appointed Chief Justice of Chester (May, 1732.)
- 1732. *Justice Henry Proctor*.—Second Justice of Brecon from 1732 till his decease, February 1745. Was Steward to Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's previously.
- 1753. *Justice John Hervey*.—Puisne Justice of Brecon from 1745 to July, 1764, and M.P. for Wallingford from 1754 to 1764, in which year he died on the 30th July.

1755. *Justice John Williams*.—Third son of John Williams of Chester, barrister-at-law, by Catherine, eldest daughter of Sir Hugh Owen, Bart., of Oriulton, Pemb., and grandson of Sir William Williams, Knight and Bart., Speaker *temp*: Charles II., and Solicitor General to James II. He was born 2nd March, 1700; He married a daughter of Alderman Bennet of Chester; he was Attorney-General of Chester. His grandson was created a baronet in 1798, as Sir John Williams of Bodelwyddan.
1765. *Mr. Justice Webb*.—Was a descendant of Lieutenant-General Webb, Governor of the Isle of Wight, *temp*: George I. Mr Justice Webb died 15th January, 1766.
1766. *Mr Justice Whitaker*.—Was second Justice on the Brecon Circuit till his death, which took place from apoplexy, 17th October, 1777. Serjeant Whitaker was for some years treasurer of Serjeants' Inn.
1778. *Mr. Justice Moysey*.—Was second Justice from 1st December, 1777, till his resignation in July, 1819. His is the longest instance (42 years) during which a "Welsh Judge" held the appointment. He died at Hayes, July 31st, 1831, aged eighty-seven. He was at one time M.P. for Bath, of which city his son became Archdeacon. In 1784 Mr Justice Moysey had the honour of defeating the Prime Minister of the day, the numbers at the close of the poll on the 7th April being—Hon. John Jeffreys Pratt (afterwards Marquis Camden), 27; Abel Moysey, Esq., 17; the Right Hon. Wm. Pitt, 12.
1787. *Mr. Justice Hardinge*.—Was born 11th June, 1743 (old style), and was the second son of Nicholas Hardinge, M.P. for Eye, etc., and Jane, 5th daughter of the Right Hon. Sir John Pratt, Knight, of Wilderness, Kent; Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench (ancestor of the Earl Camden). Mr Justice Hardinge was educated at Eton and Wadham College, Oxon; was returned in 1780 for the pocket borough of Old Sarum, which he represented till 1802, two of his colleagues at different times being Marquis Wellesley and the Rev. Horne Tooke. Although in early life a Whig, Mr Hardinge generally voted with Mr. Pitt's party, and on the 20th April, 1782, was appointed Solicitor-General to her Majesty the Queen Consort; he became her Majesty's Attorney-General in 1794, and this office he continued to hold till his decease. On the 2nd August, 1787, he was appointed senior chief justice on the Brecon Circuit. He died on the 16th April, 1819. Thus was his judicial character penned by one of the writers of his day:—"One of the most singular characters of the times in which he lived; so various were his powers that he was a judge, member of Parliament, a poet, a prose writer, and a writer of sermons; he occasionally exhibited great eloquence; no one had a finer choice of words, and few a more graceful delivery; his voice was also sonorous, his imagery rich and classical; his narrative

clear and perspicuous."—(*Annual Biography*). Mr. Hardinge, who married 22nd October, 1777, Lucy, daughter and heiress of Richard Long, Esq., of Hinxtton, Camb., was possessed of abilities of the highest order, and great expectations were formed as to his career in the legal profession, but his natural indolence, blended with his intense regard for poetry, doomed these to failure. He was the author of several works, including "The Filial Tribute," "The Essence of Malone," "The Russian Chiefs," "Two Sermons of a Layman," and "Letters to Edmund Burke, Esq." At the time of his death he was Vice-President of the Philanthropic Society, F.R.S., and F.S.A.

1816. *Mr Justice Wingfield*.—Was created King's Counsel (1818); was chief Justice on Brecon Circuit till 1824; and was from that date Master in Ordinary of the High Court of Chancery till 6th December, 1849, when he died.
1819. *Mr Justice Casberd*.—A very celebrated lawyer in his day, and was the last junior Welsh on this circuit.
1824. *Mr Justice Nolan*.—M.P. for Barnstaple from 1820 to 1824, when he became Chief Justice on the Brecon Circuit. He died in Bedford Square in February, 1828. Was the author of several legal works and treatises.
1828. *Mr Justice Clarke*.—Was the last chief Justice on the Brecon Circuit. Was born in 1777 and died at Handsworth on the 24th July, 1833. *The Gen. Mag.* for 1833 says:—"Mr Justice Clarke had practised for half a century honorably and successfully, and had been nearly 40 years recorder of Walsall; he for many years commanded the Handsworth troop of the Staffordshire Yeomanry." After 1830 the old life-appointed Welsh judges disappear for ever.

Justice Rumsey.—There is an account of Justice Rumsey, called "The Picklock of the Bar" in Williams's *Eminent Welshmen* pp. 463-4.

Justice Arden.—Although I do not find the name of this judge on my list, according to Mr Salisbury in *Border Counties Worthies* (*Bye-Gones*, 1874, p. 69) he was also appointed on the South Wales Circuit.

Brecknock.

EDWIN POOLE.

CURRENT NOTES.

A large Celtic cross, of Aberdeen granite, has been erected in Glanadda Cemetery, Bangor, on the grave of the late Dean of Bangor. On the solid base pedestal is inscribed, in sunken letters:—"In loving memory of Henry Thomas Edwards, Dean of Bangor. Born Sept. 6th, 1837; died May 24th, 1884. 'I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in Me though he were dead yet shall he live.'"

At Ty'n-y-Ffordd, near St. Asaph, on the 20th January, Jane Williams, who had reached the age of 90 years, died. She had been married 69 years, and had lived in the same house 50 years. She had borne three sons and three daughters, and amongst those who followed her to the grave were two sons aged 68 and 59 years respectively; also 13 grand, and one great-grand, children, out of 42 of the first and 22 of the latter, a total of 64 descendants.

It is officially announced that the Queen has been pleased to appoint the Ven. Archdeacon Darby to the vacant Deanery of Chester. The Ven. Archdeacon John Lionel Darby took his degree at Trinity College, Dublin, and was ordained priest in 1857 by the Bishop of Chester. Archdeacon Darby was in 1858 appointed to the living of Wells, Somersetshire, and in 1859 to the vicarage of Newborough, Wigan. Two years later he was made Inspector of Training Colleges in Religious knowledge; in 1875 Rector of St. Bridget's, Chester; in 1877 he was made Archdeacon of Chester; in 1882 examining chaplain to the Bishop of Chester; and in 1883 Canon of Chester Cathedral. The new dean will now relinquish all his other appointments, including the archdeaconry, canonry, religious inspectorship, and vicarage of St. Bridget's, Chester.

The Late Archdeacon Ffoulkes.

We regret to record the death on Tuesday, Jan. 26, of the Venerable Henry Powell Ffoulkes, Archdeacon of Montgomery, and Canon Residentiary of St. Asaph. The Venerable Archdeacon, who was seventy-one years of age, was in residence at St. Asaph at the time of his death, and attended on the previous Saturday afternoon the funeral at Tremerchion of the Rev. Hicks Owen, senior vicar choral of St. Asaph. The churchyard being on a hill in a bleak situation, he caught a chill. After returning to St. Asaph he attended evensong as usual at the Cathedral. About half-past one he was seized with severe pain, Mr. Heaton, surgeon, was sent for and the symptoms proved to be those of peritonitis. The medical attendant did not then apprehend immediate cause for anxiety, but on Monday he thought it best to obtain additional advice. Dr. Turnour of Denbigh, and Dr. Dobie of Chester were summoned, and consultation was held. The doctors thought that there was not imminent danger, as some of the symptoms they looked for in dangerous cases had not appeared. However, Dr. Dobie stayed at the Canonry for the night, and left on the following morning, leaving the patient in his opinion, a little better. There was to be another consultation on Tuesday evening, but about seven o'clock there was evidently a great change, and one of the doctors was immediately sent for. The end was evidently fast approaching, and about eight o'clock the Archdeacon was told that everything had been done for him, and that there was very little hope of his recovery. He retained his activity of mind to the last, for only three quarters of an hour before his death he expressed his surprise at the doctor's opinion, although he said he was quite prepared to die, and, calling for writing materials, made a final disposition of his affairs. He passed away at nine o'clock. We are informed that the Archdeacon had often expressed a hope that his death might be a sudden one. It is also remarkable that he appears to have had a presentiment of his death. About three weeks before it occurred, in writing to a friend, he said he felt that his days were numbered, and he wished to have some matters of business concluded in which he was then engaged.

The late Archdeacon was the second son of Mr. John Powell Ffoulkes, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Royal Denbigh Militia, of Eriviatt, near Denbigh, and Caroline Mary, his wife, 2nd daughter and eventually co-heiress of Robert Jocelyn, Captain R.N., of Stanstead Bury, Herts. He was born January 2nd, 1815, at Stanstead Bury. In early life he was educated at King's School, Chester, under the Rev. W. Harrison, then Head Master there, then at Mr. Pailton's, Eagle House, Brook-green, Hammersmith, and

subsequently at Shrewsbury School, under the celebrated Dr. Butler. Thence he matriculated at Oxford and entered Balliol College, where in 1837 he took his B.A. degree, and obtained an honorary 4th class in Literæ Humaniores—a distinction now abolished at Oxford—and in 1840 he proceeded to his M.A. degree. Soon after leaving Oxford he applied himself to the study of the Welsh language under the Rev. J. Williams (Ab Ithel), then incumbent of Nerquis. He was ordained deacon by Bishop Carey in 1839, and licensed to the curacy of Halkyn, Flintshire, of which the Rev. J. Roberts was then rector. He did not remain at this curacy long. He was ordained priest in 1840, and in the same year became stipendiary curate of Buckley in the same county, under the Rev. Henry Glynn, where he remained for about eighteen years. He did good work in this district both as an earnest parish priest and in making the services of the Church more attractive to the parishioners. Among the colliers he gained great influence and established choral services, of which the leaders were two colliers, self-taught musicians. He also established daily services there, and it not unfrequently happened that when there were mining accidents many of those who escaped injury would go to church in their working clothes to return thanks for their preservation. From this curacy he was preferred in 1857 to the rectory of Llandysyll by Bishop Short, in succession to the Rev. G. D. Mytton, and in the following year he was appointed rural dean. He remained rector of this parish for twenty-two years, and the present pretty church and substantial schools of that parish were built chiefly through his exertions, and are monuments of his zeal. In 1861 he was appointed by Bishop Short Archdeacon of Montgomery, and Canon Residentiary of St. Asaph, in succession to Archdeacon Clive. The discharge of his archidiaconal functions brought him into frequent contact with the clergy of the Archdeaconry, and he was highly esteemed by them. He adopted one excellent innovation at his visitations, the substitution of the free discussion of Church questions for the formal charge usually delivered to the clergy and churchwardens by the Archdeacon. A few years ago the anomalous boundaries of the Archdeacons of St. Asaph and Montgomery were rectified, and one result of the alteration was the transfer of the Rural Deanery of Oswestry from the Archdeaconry of St. Asaph to the Archdeaconry of Montgomery. He married Jane Margaret, daughter of Edward Lloyd, Esq., of Rhaggatt, by whom he had one only child, a daughter, who died at the age of fourteen, at the Canonry, St. Asaph, after a few days' illness. Both the Archdeacon and Mrs. Ffoulkes were overwhelmed with sorrow, but the Archdeacon never faltered in the due discharge of his responsible duties.

In 1879, upon the appointment of the Rev. W. Walsham How, then rector of Whittington, to be Bishop of Bedford, Colonel Lloyd, the patron, presented Archdeacon Ffoulkes to the vacant living, which he continued to hold till his death. It was not altogether an easy thing to succeed a man like Mr. Walsham How; and the rigidity of the Archdeacon's ecclesiastical principles brought him sometimes into unfortunate collision with his Nonconformist parishioners. His bearing, however, was kindly and courteous towards all with whom he had personal intercourse. He took a very lively interest in the spiritual and material welfare of his parishioners, and did his best to assist the different village institutions. He was President of the Whittington Reading Room and Working Men's Club, took an especial interest in the Girls' Friendly Society and Ladies' Club of the village, and in the local branch of the Church of England Temperance Society.

Although not a total abstainer, he was an earnest supporter of temperance reforms. During his incumbency a new organ was obtained for the parish church, a new vestry built, and a mission room erected at Hindford. He formed a project for building a church at Gobowen, which is an outlying portion of the parish of Whittington, but did not live to carry it out. His being obliged to leave his parish for three months in the year was a source of great anxiety to him, but he failed in an effort to get the canonry detached from the archdeaconry. He took a leading part in the establishment and welfare of the Children's Convalescent Home at Rhyl, and not long ago he added a new wing to that institution, which is named the "Gertrude Ffoulkes' Wing," in memory of his only child.

The late Archdeacon was the author of several publications for the use of Sunday Schools. He was an ex-officio member of the Lower House of the Convocation of Canterbury, and served on several committees. He was looked upon in Convocation as the chief representative of Wales, and at the Church Congress held at Leeds in 1872, he read a paper on "The Church in Wales," which excited a good deal of attention. He also took a leading part in founding and continuing the St. Asaph Diocesan Conferences. In him the Church in Wales has lost a devoted priest and a man of marked ability, while in the Diocese of St. Asaph in particular the loss of his guiding counsel and influence will be severely felt. One of the brothers of the late Archdeacon is His Honour Judge W. Wynne Ffoulkes, and another the Rev Edmund S. Ffoulkes, Vicar of St. Mary the Virgin, Oxford, who at one time joined the Roman Church, but afterwards returned to the Anglican Communion, and was the author of a well known pamphlet on the Catholic Church. By the death of Archdeacon Ffoulkes, the Rectory of Whittington, of the annual value of £965, in the gift of Colonel Lloyd, of Aston, and the canonry, of the annual value of £830, will become vacant.

The news of the Archdeacon's death reaching Whittington so soon after the announcement of his illness, caused much surprise and deep sympathy and regret. A muffled peal was rung on the church bells on Wednesday evening. Many blinds in the village were drawn on the day of the funeral.

On Friday the remains were interred in the burial ground of St. Asaph Cathedral.

At Llandysil on Thursday, and at intervals throughout the day on Friday, the church bell tolled as a mark of respect to the memory of Archdeacon Ffoulkes, who was rector of this parish for twenty-two years; also on Friday, the day of the funeral, a muffled peal was rung. On Sunday a funeral sermon was preached by the rector, the Rev. E. A. Fishbourne, and appropriate hymns were sung.

The Late Lady Frances Lloyd.

Our readers in Oswestry and the neighbourhood will share the sorrow which we feel in announcing the death of Lady Frances Lloyd, wife of Colonel Lloyd of Aston. It was only last week that we recorded the death of her ladyship's son-in-law, the Rev. E. J. Rees, rector of Letchworth, Hertfordshire; and it was while she was on a visit to her newly-widowed daughter that this second sudden bereavement befell the family of Aston, with whom the deepest sympathy will be felt amongst all classes of the community.

Lady Frances left Aston immediately on receiving the intelligence of Mr Rees's illness, and reached Letchworth a few hours after his death on the 19th of January. It is probable that she caught cold at the funeral on Saturday, and on the following Wednesday she was suffering from laryngitis. On Thursday morning a telegram was received

at Aston Hall, and Colonel Lloyd at once left home for Letchworth, from which place encouraging reports were afterwards received. Indeed the last bulletin, on Sunday morning, conveyed the hopeful intelligence that the more serious symptoms were subsiding and that, although very weak, Lady Frances was going on as well as possible. On Sunday evening, however, she was taken much worse, and the telegram which reached Aston on Monday morning stated that Lady Frances passed away at half-past ten at night. The news soon spread in Oswestry and was received with deep regret.

Lady Frances Lloyd was the third daughter of Thomas Robert, tenth Earl of Kinbroull, of Dupplin Castle, Perthshire, by Louisa Burton, daughter of Admiral Sir Charles Rowley, Bart., and was born in May, 1830. She was married on the 19th of August, 1852, to Richard Thomas Lloyd, Esq., of Aston, then in the Grenadier Guards, and some of our readers remember the rejoicings which signalized that happy event, and which were reported in our columns at the time. The late Mr Peeploe Cartwright, presiding over a dinner at Whittington, expressed the confident hope that Captain Lloyd's amiable bride would be a blessing to the neighbourhood, a hope which has been abundantly fulfilled. The deceased lady leaves five sons and five daughters, three of whom are married—Francis, a captain in his father's old regiment, the Grenadier Guards, who married, in August, 1881, Mary, daughter of the late G. P. Gunnis, Esq.; Eva, who married the late Rev E. J. Rees in April, 1881; and Ada, who married the Rev. Hugh Holbech in September, 1884.

Lady Frances Lloyd took the deepest interest in many charitable movements in Oswestry, where no one was better known or more warmly esteemed, for her ladyship's simple-hearted courtesy and constant kindness endeared her to everybody. To help her less fortunate fellow-creatures was one of the delights of her life, and she was an active member of several committees, and a diligent worker in every good work which came in her way. The loss to the poor, and indeed to the whole community, is one which will be felt for years to come, for Lady Frances Lloyd's influence was always beneficent, toning down the divisions of class and creed, and bringing together her fellow-workers of various opinions who shared her human sympathies. To a wide circle of personal friends she was endeared by her amiable character; and it is seldom that we have to record the close of a life which has left so many bright and grateful memories.

The remains of the Lady Frances Lloyd were removed from Letchworth Rectory in Hertfordshire to Aston Hall on Thursday, Feb. 4, and on Saturday, the 6th, they were interred in the family burial ground on the south side of the ancient chapel adjacent to Aston Hall.

FEBRUARY 10, 1886.

NOTES.

OWEN GLYNDWR'S SIGNET.—In the Hotel Soubise, Paris, is or was a document of the date of 1404, to which is appended the public seal of the renowned Welsh Prince, Owen Glyndwr. Casts of both the obverse and the reverse, taken by Mr. Doubleday, were exhibited by Sir Henry Ellis at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries on the 12th December, 1833, together with a cast of Glyndwr's private seal. Until this discovery was made it was not known that Glyndwr had assumed the sovereign style of using the royal signet.

Oswestry.

VERAX.

"TO CATCH THE EEL OF SCIENCE BY THE TAIL."—Under this heading in *Notes and Queries* for

January 9, 1886, H. Gaidoz says—"I find the verse quoted in an article in the *Archæological Journal*, vol. iv. p. 165, 1847. Is it known whence the poet took the expression, and if he attached a particular meaning to it? Of course it calls to my mind the 'Salmon of Knowledge' of Irish legends." I have never seen the work referred to, nor before seen the line quoted, and therefore cannot say in what connection it is used by the poet, and whether he attaches a particular meaning to it. But to a Welshman the line immediately suggests a difficult, if not almost impossible, feat. Owing to its slipperiness it is difficult to catch an eel with the hands, lay hold of it as you will, but to catch such a slippery customer *by the tail* verges so nearly upon the impossible that it has given rise to one of the most expressive of Welsh proverbs—"Dala llyswen gerfydd eil llyw"—"To catch an eel by its rudder," or tail, meaning to perform an impossible feat. BONWM.

THE BAXTERS OF LLANLLUGAN. — In *Notes and Queries* for Jan. 9, 1886, I find fuller particulars of William, nephew of Richard Baxter, than are given in "Border Counties Worthies." In both Llanllugan is represented to be in Shropshire, whereas it is in the heart of "Welsh Montgomeryshire," not far from Llanfair. Mr. Griffinhoofe, in *Notes and Queries*, says—"Richard Baxter had a brother living at Llanllugan, Shropshire, whose son William was born there 1650. This nephew was educated at Harrow, and in after years became a master of the Mercers' School. He married late in life, and left two sons and three daughters. He died May 31, 1723, and was buried at Islington. William Baxter was a man of considerable learning. In 1679 he published a Latin grammar; in 1695 an edition of 'Anacreon,' with notes (this is the one Moore mentions in his 'Remarks on Anacreon,' 1804, and not the reprint in 1710, with improvements); in 1701 his first edition of Horace appeared; the second, published by his son John after his death in 1725, was held in such esteem abroad that Gesner gave a new edition in 1752 at Leipzig, with additional notes; and it has been again printed in the same place in 1772 and 1778. William Baxter appears to have kept a correspondence with most of the learned societies (see 'Glossarium Antiquitatum Romanarum' and the *Philosophical Transactions*, &c.) Prefixed to his 'Glossarium Antiquitatum Britannicarum' (1719, 8vo.) is a fine head of him by Vertue, from a picture by Highmore when Baxter was in his sixty-ninth year. He wrote his own life (its exact title I cannot give), which may have some genealogical information." Another correspondent also says that William Baxter was "born in Shropshire," but if these writers had consulted Williams's "Eminent Welshmen" they would have found that Baxter was a Montgomeryshire Worthy. E.

DE QUINCEY AT OSWESTRY. — Under this heading *Bye-Gones* for October 1871, page 1, quotes some interesting paragraphs, apparently from the "carefully revised and greatly enlarged" edition of the "English Opium Eater" of 1862. The additions were not always improvements, as any loving student of the reprint from the First Edition recently published by Kegan Paul, and Co., in the Parchment Library, can discern. One of those additions, however, removed

in this delightful reprint to the "Notes" at the end, but following your extract in proper course in the 1862 version, is of such singular beauty as to deserve transplanting to *Bye-Gones* even at this late date.

"The day on which I left Oswestry (conveyed for nearly five miles by my warmhearted friend) was a day of golden sunshine amongst the closing days of November. As truly as Jessica's moonlight ('Merchant of Venice'), this golden sunshine might be said to *sleep* upon the woods and the fields; so awful was the universal silence, so profound the death-like stillness. It was a day belonging to a brief and pathetic season of farewell summer resurrection, which, under one name or other, is known almost everywhere. In North America it is called the 'Indian Summer.' In North Germany and Midland Germany it is called the 'Old Wives' Summer,' and more rarely the 'Girls' Summer.' It is that last brief resurrection of summer in its most brilliant memorials, a resurrection that has no root in the past, nor steady hold upon the future, like the lambent and fitful gleams from an expiring lamp, mimicking what is called the 'lightning before death' in sick patients, when close upon their end. There is the feeling of a conflict that has been going on between the lingering powers of summer and the strengthening powers of winter, not unlike that which moves by antagonist forces in some deadly inflammation hurrying forwards through fierce struggles into the final repose of mortification. For a time the equilibrium has been maintained between the hostile forces; but at last the antagonism is overthrown; the victory is accomplished for the powers that fight on the side of death; simultaneously with the conflict, the pain of conflict has departed: and thenceforward the gentle process of collapsing life, no longer fretted by countermovements, slips away with holy peace into the noiseless depths of the Infinite. So sweet, so ghostly, in its soft, golden smiles silent as a dream, and quiet as the dying trance of a saint, faded through all its stages this departing day, along the whole length of which I bade farewell for many a year to Wales, and farewell to summer. In the very aspect and the sepulchral stillness of the motionless day, as solemnly it wore away through morning, noontide, afternoon, to meet the darkness that was hurrying to swallow up its beauty, I had a fantastic feeling as though I read the very language of resignation when bending before some irresistible agency. And at intervals I heard—in how different a key!—the raving, the everlasting uproar of that dreadful metropolis, which at every step was coming nearer, and beckoning (as it seemed) to myself for purposes as dim, for issues as incalculable, as the path of cannon-shots fired at random and in darkness."

But the whole chapter abounds in local interest—telling of the "Ladies of Llangollen," visited by De Quincey; of his blissful sojourn with "humble friends"—cottagers—of junior years, writing love-letters and the like, till the seniors returned from a Methodist meeting at Carnarvon, when he found himself "de trop" at Tallyllyn; of his "camping out" amongst ferns or furze on the Montgomeryshire hillsides; and taking his ease at the "modest" inns of the neighbouring counties.

There is also (pages 150—153) a capital semi-pathetic, semi-ludicrous account of his arrival in Shrewsbury, and resting amidst a blaze of waxlights and beneath three gorgeous chandeliers in a ball room.

Some of your readers may be able to tell us which of the Shrewsbury "hotels" had the honour of housing this brilliant son of the immortals; and better still to tell us more about "Edward Edmunds, Esq.," his

hospitable entertainer in Oswestry (*Bye-Gones*, October, 1871, page 4.) Where did he live? And is the house now standing? Are any of his descendants with us?

J.P.

QUERIES.

WILLIAM JONES OF DOL-HOWELL, LLANGADFAN.—Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* direct me as to where Jones's manuscripts are likely to be found. I mean his statistical account of the parishes of Llanerfyl, Llangadfan, and Garthbeibio, which were published in the "Cambrian Register" for 1796. There are also several poems written by him, in English and Welsh, and a good collection of pedigrees which he brought together from different sources. I also find him engaged in drawing a chart of the ancient and the most worthy families of Wales. Was this ever finished? If so, where is it kept? In the Powis-Land *Papers*, vol. 2, he is described by his biographer, the late Rev. Walter Davies, M.A., as a scholar, philosopher, and poet, and ranked among the most profound critics of his time. See "Cambrian Register," vol. 2, p. 241.

DIE O'R DRYM.

ANCIENT POEM FROM BROGYNTYN MSS.—I find the following in the Appendix to Halliwell's Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words, p. 959. It is intitled "From MS. Porkington 10, written in the reign of Edward IV." (A.D. 1461—83). Is it complete? If not, where is the rest of it?

YFED-DWFR,

God that dyed for us alle,
And dranke bothe eyssell and galle,
He bryng us alle oute off bale;
And gyve hym good lyve and long,
That woll attend to my song,
And herkyne on to my talle.
Ther dwelyd a man in my contré
The wyche hafe wyvys thre
Yn proses of certyn tyme;
Be hys fyrst wyffe a chyld he had,
The wyche was a propyr lad
And ryght an happy hynd;
And his fader lovyd hym ryght welle,
Hys steppe-dame lovyd hym never a delle
I telle jowe as y thynke;
She thocht hyt lost be the rode
Alle that ever dyd hyme good,
Off mette other of drynke:
Not halfe ynowe thereof he had,
And 3yt in faythe hit was fulle bad,
And alle hyr thocht yt lost.
Y pray God evyll mot sche fare,
For oft sche dyde hym moche care,
As far forthe as sche durst!
She good wyffe to hyr husbond yone say,
For to put away thys boy
Y hold yt for the beste;
In fayth he hys a lether lade,
Y wold som other man hym had,
That beter myzt hym chaste,
Than anone spake the good man,
And to hys wyff sayd he than,
He ys but jong of age,
He schall be with us lenger,
Tyll that he be strengier,
To wyn beter wage.

We have a mane a strong freke,
The wyche one fyld kyppte owr nette,
And slepyth half the day;
He schall come home be Mary myld,
And to the fyldes schalle go the chyld,
And kepe hem 3yfe he may

3 This character is found in early English MSS. written after the twelfth century. It is a corruption of the Anglo-Saxon letter *g*, and sometimes answers to our *g*, sometimes to *y*, sometimes to *gh*, and also to a mute consonant at the commencement of a word. It is not *z*.

REPLIES.

THE MAID OF LLANGOLLEN (Oct. 21, 1885).—BONWM asks whether there was an original of "Jenny Jones." Mr Charles James Matthews, in his autobiography, says the original of "Jenny Jones" was a pretty dairymaid at the farmhouse where he lodged at Pontblyddyn. He was then an architect employed by the North Wales Coal Co. at Coed Talwn. On one occasion he was at Llangollen where a white-bearded Druid taught him the air "Cadair Idris." He then composed the ballad, the *Dramatis Personæ* being the above-named Jenny Jones and David Morgan, a ploughman at the above-named farm. It would be interesting to know whether any record remains at Pontblyddyn of this celebrated couple. Mr Matthews gives an amusing account of his meeting the composer of Cadair Idris (Mr John Parry) in London. The ballad was composed about the years 1820-25. W. D. WILLIAMS.

Blaenporth.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr Penry Williams, the well-known painter, died on February 4, at Penpont, Breconshire.

The death is announced of the Dowager Marchioness of Cholmondeley, widow of the second Marquess, at the age of 81.

Mr Edward Jones of Chetwynd, a well-known Shropshire antiquary, died recently. He was the author of a series of papers which have appeared in the Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society on the early history of the town and parish of Newport.

The remains of the late Mr Thomas Humphreys, verger and parish clerk, Ruthin, were interred in the cemetery there on Saturday afternoon. The funeral was the largest witnessed in the town for many years. Deceased was the winner of the Gwyl Dewi prize essay in 1884. His family have filled the post of verger, &c., for more than 300 years.

Amongst recent acquisitions in the library of the British Museum, the *Athenæum* mentions the following, bought at the sale of the Ellis collection of books in November last:—No. 1612 in the Catalogue, under Henry VIII., 'Il Pellegrino Inglese, n'el quale si difende l'innocente e la sincera vita del pio e religioso Re d'Inghilterra, Henrico Ottavo,' 1552, is a remarkable work, quite unknown to all bibliographers. The author was an Englishman, or rather a Welshman, who, being at Bologna in February, 1550, as he tells us, was asked by many gentlemen there about the affairs of England, and especially about the personal character of the king, whom he extols highly. The writer, William Thomas, was afterwards Clerk of the Council to King Edward VI. He wrote a book called the 'History of Italy,' published in London in 1549, and very well worth reading. On the accession of Queen Mary he joined in Wyatt's Rebellion, and upon its suppression was executed. An English text of his book about Henry VIII., from a MS. copy, was published in 1774.

The Bishop of Bedford has published (through Messrs Wells Gardner, Darton, and Co.,) a collection of poems and hymns, some of which are already well known to our readers. With others they will be glad to make themselves acquainted; and many persons perhaps will be surprised to see how easily Dr How passes from grave to gay, and how ready he is to tell some humorous tale in verse. One of these lighter pieces, a protest against bill-sticking on the rocks at Barmouth, appeared for the first time, we believe, in the *Oswestry Advertiser*; and a more serious poem, a farewell to Cader Idris, has become familiar to a large number of readers in the "Gossiping Guide to Wales," where it was inserted with the author's permission. This collection will be doubly interesting to the Bishop's friends, and his old neighbours in Shropshire, because it is in part biographical. The dates to the poems help us to trace, if in faint outline, Dr How's career, and, beginning when, we hope, he was quite a young man, they show how his days have been "bound each to each by natural piety." Nearly fifty years ago, he wrote (of a Ride at Leaton Knolls, near Shrewsbury)—

It seemed as tho' the mountain-piles
That crowned the farthest West,
Scarce hid those fabled happy isles
With cloudless sunshine blest.
Oh would I might to other's eye
That close-writ page unroll,
Whose everlasting memory
I drink into my soul;
Whose influence thro' smiles and tears
Shall last as it began;
A happiness for after years,
A new part of the man!

And the same love of nature, and the same wish to share it with the poor and the wretched, shows itself again when, as Bishop of East London, in 1883, he writes—

"The world is very beautiful!" I said,
As yesterday, beside the brimming stream,
Glad and alone, I watched the tremulous gleam
Slant thro' the wintry wood, green carpeted
With moss and fern and curving bramble-spray,
And bronze the thousand russet margin reeds,
And in the sparkling holly glint and play,
And kindle all the briar's flaming seeds.

* * * * *

O brother, treading ever-darkening ways,
O sister, whelmed in ever-deepening care,
Would God we might unfold before your gaze
Some vision of the pure, and true, and fair!
Better to know, tho' sadder things be known,
Better to see, tho' tears half blind the sight,
Than thralldom to the sense, and heart of stone,
And horrible contentment with the night.
Oh! bring we then all sweet and gracious things
To touch the lives that lie so chill and drear,
That they may dream of some diviner sphere,
Whence each soft ray of love and beauty springs.
Each good and perfect gift is from above;
And there is healing for Earth's direst woes;
God hath unsealed the springs of light and love,
To make the desert blossom as the rose.

All through the book we find the fresh delight in beautiful scenes mixed up with deep sympathy for suffering men and women. And we find also in a series of poems headed "My Clergy," how broad and

catholic, as becomes a bishop, are Dr How's religious sympathies. This, for example, reveals a recognition of the character of certain forms of doubt which we too seldom find amongst religious teachers—

"We know no God," they cry "we cannot know:"—
Not carnal men, who dare not face the light,
But strong men, lovers of the truth and right,
And inly wroth with human wrong and woe.
And oftentimes to their gatherings one would go,
Full weary, with his Lord's-day labour o'er,
Yet yearning all their troubles to explore,
And brave with manly sympathy's warm glow,
He set his faith in midst of fiercest fires,
Daring all loss, accepting wound and scar,
That he might bring souls out into the light:
For his was love that never faints or tires,
And his was faith, that like the silver bar,
Comes from the furnace but more strong and bright.

Finally, here is a poem which will be read from its local interest (like several others in this volume)—

MOUNTAIN PANSIES.

(Moelydd, near Oswestry.)

Up among the dainty mountain-mosses,
Where the freshest breezes ever blow,
On the slopes that front the open heavens,
There, like gems, the purple pansies grow.

All around are glorious mountain-ranges,
Some in shade and some with sunlight browed,
And soft gleams of green and gold and purple
Fall thro' windy rents of drifting cloud.

Rough and lichened rocks, in knolls and ledges,
All their hollows crowded up with fern,
Break the springy turf, and round about them
Golden-blossomed gorses brightly burn.

There, with keen eye gazing on the distance,
Standing on the wild and breezy down,
You can see full many a home and hamlet,—
See the dim spires of the far-off town.

It is here, where all is free and open,
Here, where wild winds ever come and go,
Here, with nought between them and the heavens,
That the gemlike purple pansies grow.

Open all thy soul to God's great glory,
Let all heavenly influence round thee pour,
Then thy heart, like the wild breezy mountain,
Shall with gemlike thoughts be studded o'er.

We hope we have given our readers such a taste of this little book as will lead them to go to it for more.

FEBRUARY 17, 1886.

NOTES.

CURIOUS ARRANGEMENT FOR THE LOAN OF BIBLES IN THE PARISH OF MARCHWIEL, IN THE EARLY PART OF THE 18TH CENTURY.—In looking lately through the Parish Registers of Marchwiel, I came upon the following curious memorandum:—

"Bibles given by Mr Foulks, Rector of Marchwiel, in the year 1719, for the persons underwritten, upon condition to be Returned to the Rector of the said parish when they dye or Remove out of the said parish,

and then to be disposed of to others the Rector shall think fit:

"John Williams, smith, of the Llan.

"Richard ap Richard, cripple, of Pentre Milir [Pentre Meilir].

"Phillip Randle near Croise Gwnnion [Croesau Gwynnion].

"— Evans, for the use of the Charyty School.

"Owen Williams' son of Pentre yr llygod."

At the foot of this is a later memorandum:—"The Bible w'ch Richd. ap Richd. cripple had is now with Peter Ellis, Street yr hwch."

ALFRED NEOBARD PALMER.

3, Ar-y-bryn-Terrace, Wrexham.

GRANTS OF WILLIAM III. (Jan. 20, 1886).—

"Apr. 1693. A Grant and Assignemt unto Henry Herbert, Esq., of £2,181 4s. 3d. owing to his Majty from Bevass Floyd on his acct. of ye Revenue of Wales whereof he was Recer., as also of £324 3s. 4d. depending on Mr. Nashe's acct. as Receiver of those Revenues for ye Year ending at Mich'mas 1688, and all other arrears appearing to be due from ye said Nash to ye 15th March, 1692, with an Assignemt of a proportionable part of a yearly summ payable to Gilbert Whitehall and his Heirs out of ye Excise for ye summ of £824 4s. oweing by ye sd. Whitehall to ye sd Floyd, of wch ye sayd Whitehall was thereupon to be discharged."

"May, 1694. A Grant unto Henry de Nassau, Seignr D'auverquerque, his Heirs and Assignes, of ye yearly Rent of £800 out of ye Revenue of ye Crown in South Wales and ye yearly Rent of £1,200 out of ye Revenue of North Wales."

"May, 1695. A Grant unto Francis, Earle of Bradford, and his Heirs for ever, in consideration of £916 pd. into ye Receipt of ye Excheqr. of a fee farm Rent of £66 13s. 4d. issuing out of Bridstock Park in ye county of Oxon, and all Arrearages of ye same."

"Augt., 1695. A Grant unto William, Earle of Rochford, and his Heirs, of ye Estate found by Inquisition to be forfeited to his Majty in ye County of North'ton and Montgomery by ye attainder of ye Marquess of Powys, and seized into his Majtys hands."

"Augt., 1695. A Grant unto William, Earle of Portland, his Heirs and Assignes for ever, of ye Lordship and Mannour of Denbigh, Brumfield and Yale in North Wales, under ye yearly rent of 6s. 8d.—Memd, This Grant never passed ye Great Seal."

"Aprill, 1696. A Grant unto Wm. Earle of Rochford, his Heirs and Assignes for ever, of ye Mannor of Hendon and all ye Estate found by Inquisition to be forfeited to his Majty in ye county of Midd'x by ye attainder of ye Marquess of Powys (except ye House called Powys House) at ye yearly rent of 13s. 4d. wth a Grant of ye Arrears and Mesne Profitts arisen to his Majty out of ye sayd Marquesses forfeited Estates in ye Countys of North'ton and Montgomery, before granted to ye sd Earle."

Oswestry.

VERAX.

QUERIES.

THE SANCTUARY CROSS OF CERI (KERRY).

In the history of the Literature of Wales (Cardiff, 1884) there is given an English translation of part of Gutto'r

Glyn's Ode to Davydd Llwyd (of Newtown), in which the following lines occur:—

Like the faithful sanctuary cross of Keri

The Lord of Kedewain will protect us.

Is there any tradition as to this cross remaining among the people of the district, or any reference in any MS. or book about the same? Information relating to it would confer a favour on A BOOKWORM.

DARVELL GADARN.—The following is from Halliwell's Dictionary of Provincial and Archaic Words (p. 960):—

A Letter, temp. Henry VIII.

Ryghte honorable and my syngular goodes lorde and mayster, all circumstauncys and thankes sett aside, pleasithe yt youre good lordeshippe to be advertisid, that where I was constitute and made by youre honorable desire and commaundmente commissarie generall of the dyocese of Saynte Assaph, I have done my dylygens and dutie for the expulsiinge and takynge awaye of certain abusions, supersticions, and ipocryses usid within the saide diocese of Saynte Assaph, accordynge to the kynges honorable actes and injunctions therin made. That notwithstandinge, there ys an image of Darvellgadarn within the saide diocesa, in whome the people have so greate confidence, hope, and truste, that they cumme daylye a pillgrimage unto hym, somme withe kyne, other with oxen or horsis, and the reste withe money, insomuche that there was fyve or syxe hundrethe pillgrames, to a mans estimation, that offered to the saide image the fyfte dr'e of this presente monethe of Aprill. The innocent people hathe ben sore alurid and entisid to worshippe the saide image, insomuche that there is a commyn sayinge as yet amongst them that whosoever will offer anie thinge to the saide image of Darvellgadarn, he hathe power to fatche Lym or them that so offers oute of hell when they be dampned. Therefore, for the reformation and amendinge of the premisses, I wolde gladlie knowe by this berer youre honorable pleasure and will, as knowithe God, who ever preserve your lordeshippe longe in welthe and honor. Written in Northe Wales, the vj. daye of this presente Aprill.

Youre bedman and dayelye orator by dutie.

ELIS PRICE.

Who was this Ellis Price, and in what year was this letter written? The image was burned in Smithfield in 1538.

YFED-DWFR.

JUDGE WALTER OF LUDLOW. — Edmund Walter, of Ludlow, Esq., who died in 1592, was one of the Justices of Great Sessions on the Brecon Circuit, which comprised the counties of Glamorgan, Brecon, and Radnor. He was also Attorney General to Charles I. when Prince of Wales, serjeant-at-law, and afterwards chief baron of the exchequer. He married Mary, one of the daughters of Thomas Herbert, of Eytton. This Edmund Walter was a great benefactor to Jesus College, Oxford (founded by Dr. Hugh Price, of Brecknock) to which seminary Judge Walter gave £1,000, a very considerable sum of money in those days, which was spent in the purchase of lands in Carmarthenshire. Several of Judge Walter's ancestors and descendants were bailiffs of Brecknock, and a William Walter, presumably of the same family, was Archdeacon of Brecon in 1504 and 1510. What do the Shropshire Histories say about Judge Walter?

Brecknock.

E P.

REPLIES.

EDWARD LLWYD THE WELSH ANTI-QUARY (January 27, 1886).—The Llwyd referred to by Oswy was the illegitimate son of Edward Lloyd, Esq., of Llanforda, and the letter quoted by Oswy was evidently written for the purpose of obtaining information for Llwyd's Great Work, the "Archæologia Britannica," which appeared in 1707. The fullest and most authentic account of Edward Llwyd, as Canon Williams informs us in his "Eminent Welshmen," p. 290, is found in Owen's British Remains, 8vo, London, 1777.

BONWM.

CURRENT NOTES.

Lady Marion Alford has written a book on "Needle-work as Art."

The Rev Silvan Evans is busily engaged in passing through the press his Welsh Dictionary, of which some 800 pages have been printed.

To the last meeting of the Archæological Institute, Mr Ready sent a large picture of Chester, of about the year 1700, taken from the race-course, and of considerable local interest as showing the enormous changes which have since been brought about in that ancient city.

The "Old Stone Crosses of the Vale of Clwyd" by the Rev Elias Owen is now completed. Mr Quaritch, and Messrs Woodall, Minshall, and Co, are the publishers. The "Old Stone Crosses" contains a good deal of folklore, and an account of manners and customs which have passed or are rapidly passing away.

The Mainwaring manuscripts in the possession of Sir Philip T. Mainwaring, Bart., at Peover Hall, near Knutsford, are referred to in the 10th report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts. "At Peover Hall," say the Commissioners, "are many early charters and deeds, two of the former being grants by Hugh Kevillio, Earl of Chester, and by his son and successor, Randol Blundeville, a few original letters and diaries of valuable manuscript history of the Mainwaring family drawn by Sir William Dugdale, and ten large folio volumes of correspondence relating to the post office in the time of Charles II."

The Bishop of St. Asaph has conferred the Archdeaconry of Montgomery, vacant by the death of Archdeacon Ffoulkes, with the residentiary canonry attached, upon the Rev. David Richard Thomas, M.A., F.S.A., vicar of Meifod. Mr Thomas graduated at Oxford, was ordained priest in 1858, and was appointed vicar of Meifod in 1877. He is an honorary canon of St. Asaph, and a proctor for the clergy in Convocation; joint editor of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, and author of "The History of the Diocese of St. Asaph, General, Cathedral, and Parochial," a work of great research and value. The canonry is worth £350 a year.

A Llanguollen writer, under date February 9th, says:—"The snow still lingers on the hill-tops and northerly slopes, but has long since disappeared from this valley, where it never was more than two or three inches deep. The sheep during the worst of the storm were troublesome, and invaded all the lower land in search of pasture. The breeding ewes have been fed with hay and turnips in the meadows by the river. Already the snowdrop is peeping forth in sheltered nooks, and the lengthening days make us more hopeful. The cherry whistle of the mistle-thrush rings sharply out from the tree-tops, announcing the certain advent of spring. All the common song birds have

clustered about the windows to secure a share of the daily dole. The blackbird seems boldest of all, and remains quietly feeding when the others take flight with sudden alarm. Even the jackdaw has partaken of the bread, but, unlike the other birds, he merely pounces down to secure a lump, and then flies off to feast in some more secluded spot. It is amusing to watch the titmice of various sorts feed on a piece of meat suspended by a string, to which they cling in every attitude imaginable, pegging away all the time most industriously. At Trevor last week a lark was soaring in full song; there are none in this valley. I observed lately feeding by the Dee a flock of small birds rather less than the siskin, with a black crest going to a point behind the head. They were of a bright yellowish green, with ear covert of yellowish orange, and appeared to feed both on the ground and on the catkin of the alder. They had bars of white or light yellow across the wings, and were light brownish grey, with dark marks underneath the body. I wonder much what bird it is. Can any of your readers tell me? They were too restless to observe more closely."

The *Athenæum* says:—Professor Rhys proposes to issue a series of early Welsh texts, which will approximate to the original as closely as the resources of modern typography will allow, and will be adequately illustrated with facsimiles. The series will be printed at the Clarendon Press, and will include, among other texts, those of the following important manuscripts:—1. The 'Black Book of Carmarthen,' reproduced by collotype facsimile. 2. The texts of the 'Black Book,' of the 'Book of Aneurin,' and of the 'Book of Taliessin.' Professor Rhys hopes to publish at some future time an annotated translation of these books or parts of them. 3. The texts of the leading versions of the 'historical' Triads, with translations and notes. 4. A critical edition of the 'Mabinogion,' 'Kulhwch and Olwen,' the 'Dreams of Rhonabwy,' and of 'Maxen Wledig,' 'Llud and Llevellys,' and the Arthurian romances, including, it is hoped, the unpublished version of 'Lawsolot dy Lac,' with translations and copious notes by the editor: the text of this work, the preparation of which is already far advanced, will be based on that of the 'White Book,' the oldest version known with the exception of one or two fragments, which will be given in the notes. 5. The text of the whole of the 'Red Book of Hergest.' The first issue of this work, comprising the 'Mabinogion,' &c., the Arthurian romances, and Triads, with indices, will be ready in June next.—With reference to the same project a London correspondent says:—"It is announced that Mr J. Gwenogfryn Evans, of Oxford, intends publishing, with the editorial assistance of Professor Rhys, a series of the old Welsh Texts. In order to secure the publication of the 'Red Book of Hergest' in its entirety, the Council of the Society of Cymmrodorion has agreed with Mr Evans to take a portion of the edition of each of the four works in which the MS. will be produced, to be distributed to the members of the Society as a supplement to its publications."

We regret to record the death in Florida, in the United States, on Feb. 12, of Mr Randolph Caldecott at the age of forty. Mr Caldecott, whose health had been failing for some years past, went to Florida in the hope of the climate proving beneficial, but unfortunately the winter there proved one of very unusual severity, and his fragile constitution was unable to battle against it. Mr Caldecott was born at Chester, and spent the earlier portion of his life in Whitchurch and the neighbourhood. It was in 1875 and 1876 that the young draughtsman produced those illustrations to Washington Irving which

first drew attention strongly to his work. His exquisite humour was quite as completely evidenced by his animal drawing, and that can be associated with no period. He gave the most characteristic qualities of humanity to dog and frog and cat, and yet preserved their own. Much of his labour—which was very intense where it seems to have been most slight, and very exhausting where it seems to have been most facile—will certainly go down to a tolerably distant posterity. His animals and his human characters will go down together. As an illustrator, it was his good fortune to be but little engaged in giving the ornament and piquancy of his art to ephemeral fiction. Roaming about Shropshire lanes, and scraping acquaintance with various odd folk on market days and other state occasions, he accumulated in his sketch-book perhaps the majority of the queer old characters and charming scenes which his facile pen or pencil was destined to reproduce in the pages of the delightful little books which he afterwards issued.

SINGULAR RETURN.—The following curious return was made to the Commissioners of the Income Tax in the year 1801, at Shrewsbury:—

I, A. B., do declare
I have but little money to spare.

I have
1 little house,
1 little maid,
2 little boys,
2 little trade,
2 little land,
2 little money at command.

By this you see
I have children three,
Depend on me, A. B.

GOOSEBERRIES.—The four heaviest gooseberries grown in England in 1831, were as follows:—Red Roaring Lion, 27 dwts. 6 grs. grown by Mr Davies, exhibited at Oswestry meeting. Yellow Leader, 26 dwts. 17 grs. Richard Riley, at Nantwich meeting. Green Peacock, 23 dwts. 15 grs. John Pisher, at Rockwood meeting. White Eagle, 25 dwts. 18 grs. James Dean, at Chester meeting.

THE WODHULL LIBRARY.—The sale of this remarkable collection was recently completed by Messrs Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge, after ten days of unusual interest, resulting in prices for some of the beautifully bound books quite beyond all precedent. The total proceeds amounted to £11,973 4s. 6d. The library was sold by order of Captain Severne of Wallop, Shropshire, and Thenford, Banbury, the late member for South Shropshire, a descendant of one of Michael Wodhull's legatees.

FEBRUARY 24, 1886.

NOTES.

HANGING IN CHAINS.—On the night of the 4th of January, 1731, a barbarous murder was committed on John Williams, carpenter, who lived at a place called Cwm-bach in Radnorshire; he was stabbed in the throat with a knife, and his brains were beaten out with an axe; his door being left on the latch and the key in the thatch as usual, and no robbery committed. The murder was not discovered till the 7th, when his only brother William came and, in the presence of the neighbours, owned the bloody knife, which, with the washing of his bloody clothes by his sweetheart on the night of the murder, caused suspicion to be directed to him. He

was apprehended and tried for the offence at the March Assizes held at Presteign, and was found guilty. He was sentenced to death and executed on the 11th of April, on a gibbet erected on Glasbury Common, and afterwards hung in chains. He confessed and died penitently. (*Gent. Mag.*, vol. 1, p.p. 30-177.)

KELT.

DISTURBANCES IN CARMARTHEN, 1755.—These disturbances run very high, occasioned, it is said, by the election of magistrates. A letter from thence gives the following account:—The town mob had for a long time with impunity maimed several persons, beat out the brains of the barber at the *Red Lion*, broke open and demolished several houses, and attempted to pull down the *Red Lion*, so that it was necessary to send for guards; and on *Sunday*, the 7th inst. (Decr. 1755) a strong party arrived from *Pembrokeshire*, who were quartered at the *Red Lion* and elsewhere. Upon this the mob reinforced themselves with men from the country, and, having fortified the castle and upper house, made portholes, &c., and supplied themselves with great guns and small arms. The upper gate is fortified by the *Red Lion* people, and called *Newgate*, in here the prisoners taken by the Sheriff on one side are put. Mr *Lewis*, the bookseller, *Newland*, the lawyer, and *Nicholls*, a shopkeeper, are wounded, as are two women dangerously. In short the town is full of fire, smoke, and tumult. By an advertisement published in the papers the true cause of all this is the violence of party and a dislike to the *Jacobites*.—*Gent Mag.* 1755, p. 570.

KELT.

A CHESHIRE COW CHARITY.—The following is particularly interesting at the present moment, when there is so much talk of cowlands. Is the Charity still continued?

VERAX.

Oswestry.

(From the 31st Report of the Commissioners on Charities.)

James Goodaker of Barnston, in the parish of Woodchurch, in Cheshire, left, in 1525, twenty marks to buy twenty yoke of bullocks, which were afterwards, by order of the commissioners of pious uses, converted into cows, and given to the poor of the said parish; every parishioner that had a cow or cows paying yearly for each to the overseers the sum of 2s. 8d. every Friday before Whitsunday, which hire was to be a stock for the benefit of the poor for ever.

The charity thus recorded in the parish church is now managed upon a system laid down in a decree of the Bishop of Chester, to whom it appears the matter had been referred. This decree was given at Wigan, on the 17th of July, 1679, and is inserted in the register of the parish of Woodchurch. After reciting that there had been differences in the parish concerning the management of the charity founded by James Goodaker of Barnston, it was ordered that from thenceforth there should be twelve governors of the cows, whereof the owner of the house of Prenton should be one, the parson of the parish another, and the churchwardens two more; and the other eight to be elected yearly out of the several townships of the said parish, each man so selected overseeing and taking care of the cows in his particular township. It was also ordered that the governors should jointly have power to nominate two overseers yearly to have power to dispose of the cows; and, if they saw occasion, to cause them to be exchanged for younger. It was also ordered that every person having

a parish cow should pay to the overseers the sum of 2s. 8d. on the Friday before Whitsuntide, the overseers giving in their accounts to the governors, who should have power to allow and approve of them. It was also ordered that every cow should be marked on the one horn with W.P. (Woodchurch Parish), and on the other with initial letters of the parson's name. It was also ordered that the cows should be brought every Friday before Whitsuntide to the parson's court, to be viewed by the governors and overseers; any person failing to pay his hire, or to bring his cow at the time appointed, to forfeit his cow, and be incapable of having another for the space of three years. Lastly, it was ordered, that a copy of that decree should be entered in the bishop's registry, and the decree itself deposited in the parish chest of Woodchurch.

The parish of Woodchurch includes ten (?) townships, from each of which a trustee is elected, whose duty it is to see that the cows are properly taken care of; and these persons are termed governors of the cows. There is an annual meeting of the trustees on the Friday before Whitsuntide, on which occasion the cows are produced and examined, and the owners of them required to pay the interest of the money advanced to them. The sum thus collected is carried to account with the funds of the charity for the benefit of future applicants, or for the purpose of replacing the cows that happen to die or become useless. Any poor industrious person, who can raise a small sum of money, is considered entitled to receive from this charity enough to purchase a cow. The general price of a cow in this part of the country is from £7 to £8, and it is usually expected that at least half the amount should be contributed by the applicant; sometimes, however, as much as £5 is advanced from the funds of the charity. The annual sum paid by each person receiving the benefit of the charity, amounts to £5 per cent. on the sum advanced. When a cow dies, whatever advantage can be made of the carcass belongs to the charity; and if the owner should not have been guilty of negligence or ill-treatment, his loss is immediately replaced.

The following table shows the state of the charity on "Cow-day," in the year 1835:—

Townships.	Number of Cows.	Amount paid.
		£ s. d.
Woodchurch	4	0 15 8
Ladican	1	0 3 0
Arrow	4	0 16 6
Irby	8	1 12 0
Barnston	6	1 4 2
Pensby	1	0 4 0
Prenton	3	0 13 0
Thingwell	6	1 4 0
Oxton	6	1 2 8
	39	£7 15 0

The annual charges upon the fund are as follow:—

	£ s. d.
For a dinner on Cow-day	1 15 6
Biscuits distributed to the owners of cows ...	0 7 0
To the Schoolmaster for keeping the accounts ...	0 5 0
For attendance at the gate	0 1 4
	£2 8 10

A VERY EXTRAORDINARY CUSTOM IN THE FORESTS OF WALES.—An Act passed in the reign of Henry VIII. recites a very extraordinary custom as existing in the Forests of Wales, evidently of Norman origin, which King Henry VIII. (who was very good and considerate towards his Welsh subjects) pro-

hibited in the future. The iniquitous custom was "that if any of the King's subjects fortune to pass, go, or ride through the said forests not having a token delivered him by the chief foresters, rulers, or walkers (such person not being a yearly tributary or *chenser*), he was obliged to pay the forester a grievous fine, and if taken, found, or *espied* twenty-four feet out of the highway, he forfeited all the gold he had about him and was liable to lose a joint of one of his hands, or to pay a fine at the will of the forester; and also that if stolen cattle were brought or strayed into the forest the officers had a right to seize and detain them as their perquisites, so that the owners (as the statute observes) had no remedy or mode to recover them, but by way of redemption or buying again of their own property."

Brecknock.

E.P.

QUERIES.

SIR JOHN OWEN, THE ROYALIST.—Will some correspondent kindly say what arms this distinguished personage was entitled to bear, and in what order; or favour me with an authoritative reference? BEN.

MADOG GOCH.—Are there any known descendants of Madog Goch, Lord of Mawddwy, son of Iorwerth Goch, grandson of Bleddyn ap Cynfyn, Prince of Powis, and where can an account of them be seen? O.

HUW LLWYD.—Is there anything known of what stock were Huw Llwyd, Cynval, Festiniog, and his nephew Morgan Llwyd o Wynedd, and are there any known descendants of them now? O.

WELSH CIRCUITS (Feb. 17, 1886).—Besides the Brecon, there was certainly a Carmarthenshire Circuit in South Wales, as appears by the following notice:—"Mitford, Baron of Redesdale was Justice of the counties of Caermarthen, Pembroke, and Cardigan, and the towns of Caermarthen and Haverfordwest, July 17, 1789, and Solicitor General, 1793." He was succeeded, perhaps immediately, by John Lloyd, Esq., of Berth, co. Denbigh, Sergeant-at-Law, who died in 1806. Were there any others? H.W.L.

REPLIES.

DE QUINCEY AT OSWESTRY (Feb. 10, 1886).—I am glad to be able to give your correspondent *just* some information in reply to his queries respecting Edward Edmunds, Esq., who was a solicitor in this town, and whom I intimately knew. He resided in the house in Willow-street now forming the North and South Wales Bank and the manager's dwelling house. Mr Edmunds was a very well read, scholarly, genial man, and, as such, was fitted to attract the friendship of a man like De Quincey. I am not aware that he had any children except the following, viz., the Rev Edward Edmunds (who died many years ago), the Rev John Edmunds, who is still living, and resident in Northumberland, Mary, Maria, Hannah, and Laura. I had a letter from the Rev John Edmunds about two years ago. A friend tells me he believes Mary, Maria, Hannah, and Laura, to be still living, but whether this be so or not, neither he nor I can say for certain.

Castle View, Oswestry.

THOS. MINSHALL.

CURRENT NOTES.

The parish church of St. Helen's, Northwich, which has been restored at a cost of £5,000, was re-opened on Thursday by the Bishop of Chester.

The English Text Society will shortly issue "Upton-on-Severn Words" (an amended reprint to replace one already issued), and part 2 of the Glossary of Cheshire Words, by Mr R. Holland.

Through the good offices of Lord Mostyn there is now some probability of a permanent home being found in North Wales for the Royal Cambrian Academy of Art. Arrangements are in progress for the acquisition of Plas Mawr, the Conway residence of the Mostyn family, a building of special interest to antiquaries, having been erected in the reign of Queen Elizabeth by Robert Wynne of Gwydir.

An interesting relic has been dug up at Newport, Salop, a curious brass standard weight ($7\frac{1}{4}$ lbs), in shape and size like an ordinary flatiron, minus the handle, having engraved on the one side the Royal Arms of England and France (Three Lions, Three Lilies). It is thought to be of the time of Edward the Third (1341 or about), and is supposed to have been used for weighing articles brought into Newport for sale and subject to toll.

In commemoration of the election of the first member of Parliament for Arvon, Mr W. Rathbone, M.P., has presented the principal members of the District Committee with a large illuminated card. At the head are displayed the county arms, and in the border are the photograph of the member, the date of his election, and his monogram. The figures polled for the two candidates are introduced. Then comes the following expression of thanks, bearing Mr Rathbone's autograph:—"Greenbank, Liverpool, January, 1886.—Dear sir,—Allow me to thank you most warmly for your valuable exertions in securing so magnificent a majority for the cause of civil and religious liberty. This gratifying result could not have been secured without the devoted and energetic voluntary labours of my many friends and supporters."

DEATH OF MR J. C. WYNNE-EDWARDS.—We regret to record the death of Mr J. Copner Wynne-Edwards of Denbigh, which took place on Tuesday, February 16. Mr Edwards had identified himself with almost every good work which was done in the town. In politics he was an enthusiastic Conservative, and possessed a high degree of oratorical power. The admirable work he performed in connection with the Working Men's Constitutional Association will long be remembered, and his loss will be particularly felt by that body. The deceased gentleman was a native of Merionethshire, in which county his father was a vicar. He was a barrister until 1852, when he retired in order to become a solicitor. He was a member of the Town Council for many years, and took a prominent part in the deliberations of that body. In addition to this, he was a governor of Howell's School and a borough magistrate, in both of which capacities he rendered good public service. He was 64 years of age.

DEATH OF LORD FORESTER.—We regret to record the death of Lord Forester, which occurred after a short illness at his house in Carlton-gardens, at a quarter to one on Sunday morning, Feb. 14. Sir William Gull, Sir William Jenner, and Mr Venning were in attendance during his illness. The late George Cecil Weld Forester, Baron Forester, of Willey Park, county Salop, was born 10th May, 1807, and was educated at Westminster School. He entered the army in 1824, as Cornet in the Royal Horse Guards, in

which Regiment he became Lieutenant Colonel Commanding in 1853, Lieutenant General in 1871, and was placed on the retired list as General in October, 1877. The late Peer represented Wenlock in the House of Commons from 1828 till his succession to the Peerage on the death of his brother, in October, 1874. The late Lord married 8th November, 1862, the Hon. Mary Anne Jervis, third daughter of Edward, second Viscount St. Vincent, and widow of Mr D. O. Dyce-Sombre, who survives him. In default of issue the family honours devolve upon his brother, the Hon. and Rev. Orlando Watkin Weld Forester, Rector of Gedding, Notts, and Canon of York, born in April, 1813. The remains of Lord Forester, which were taken to Willey Park, Shropshire, from Carlton-gardens, on Friday, Feb. 19, were deposited in the family vault in Willey Churchyard on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 20.

MARCH 3, 1886.

NOTES.

GAME CERTIFICATES IN 1804.—The following is a list of those residing in *Oswestry* who took out Game Certificates in 1804:—Bolas, William. Croxon, Edward. Davies, Arthur. Dorsett, Humphry Parry. Edwards, Edward. Higginson, Richard. Jebb, Richard. Jones, Richard Foulke. Roberts, Nathaniel. Venables, Richard. Warrington, G. H. Matthew, John. Withers, George. Wynne, John. J.

METHEGLIN.—In *The History of the Principality of Wales*, by R. B.—, (1) London, printed by Nath: Crouch at the Bell, in the Poultry, near Cheapside, 1695, the following occurs relating to Metheglin:—

"They have likewise Metheglin, first invented by Matthew Glin, their countryman; it is compounded of Milk and Honey, and is very wholesome. Pollio Romulus, being an hundred years of age, told Julius Cæsar that he had preserved the vigour of his mind and body by taking Metheglin inwardly and using oyl outwardly.

"It is like Mead, but much stronger; Queen Elizabeth, who, by the Tudors, was of Welsh descent, much loved this, her native liquor" (p. 126). A. BOOKWORM.

OSWESTRY MAGISTRATES AND GUARDIANS, 1830.—A minute book of the Oswestry House of Industry contains the following entry:—

Mar. 22, 1830. John Jones of Croeswillan made a charge against the House Surgeon in the case of John Jones a pauper; reported to them from the Magistrates; they did not consider the complaint proved, and expressed their surprise at the interference of the Magistrates.

The Magistrates also kept a minute of the case, in the shape of the information sworn by Jones, as follows:—

Mar. 10, 1830. Depositions of John Jones of Crosswillan in the parish of Oswestry in the county of Salop, weaver:—Being sworn saith that fourteen weeks yesterday I went to the Oswestry House of Industry and saw a boy named John Jones a pauper in the said House of Industry in a state of great misery. [Jones here describes the wounds as presenting a sad appearance from neglect, and continues.] I have since then called from time to time to see the said John Jones, and one night in particular there came up milk-gruel and bread in it, and the whole quantity of bread in the cup was taken up upon a spoon out of the gruel at once; this was a few minutes after six o'clock

(1) Burton.

in the evening. I called again the next morning and in about fifteen hours after the last gruel was brought up; he had more gruel of the same quantity and quality; that from the time I first saw the boy at the House the wounds were never dressed by the House-Surgeon before Friday last. When I first saw the boy he appeared to be almost starved for want of food, and I have since that time occasionally supplied him with food myself, and dressed his wounds.—JOHN JONES. Sworn before G. N. K. LLOYD. How far the Magistrates were justified in taking the work out of the hands of the Directors, we cannot say, but the action they took was prompt, as the following entry will show:—

Mar. 13, 1830. The undersigned Magistrates having assembled at the House of Industry this day in consequence of the charges contained in the above information, and having investigated the particulars, are of opinion that no just imputation can be laid against the steward on account of the quantity or quality of the food administered, but they feel it their duty to state that some blame attaches itself to the Medical Attendant in having permitted a Relative, not a resident in the House, to interfere with his arrangements, and in having partly withdrawn his aid from the patient in consequence of such interference, a circumstance inadmissible in a public establishment.—THOS. N. PARKER, JAS. DONNE, G. N. K. LLOYD, J. V. LOVETT, D. P. T. AUBREY.

Oswestrians who have turned fifty will remember "Old John of Croeswillan," who lived in a cottage near the Ancient Stone of that name on the Morda road. As boys, I remember, we thought him a bit of humbug, because he very ostentatiously carried a large Bible under his arm every Sunday morning as he went to church.

J.

OUR FRIENDS OVER THE BORDER IN 1534.

"Covenantes made between Edward Sutton Lord Dudley & Powys & Rafe Brereton Squire, Stewards of the Lordship of Oswestry; Edward Trevor Constable of the same Lordship and John Trevor Lieftenant, touching the better government of the Lordships of Powis and Oswestry made A.D. 1534.

"To keepe a day of march bet. Powys and Oswestree Lordship before the last of July next.

"To come and vew and redresse all such murthers felonyes or other offences comitted and done by the Tenants and Inhabitants of ether of sayd Lordships agaynst other according to the forme of the March. If that any p'son or p'sons henceforth answerable in that one cuntrye comitt or doe open felonie in that other countree that then the officers of that countree where he or they be doing be Maistres (?) shall take the offender or offenders and in continent send him or them there as the offence shall be done to be punished according to his demeritt.

"If any person or persons of the one cuntrye hereafter lett vex or trouble any p'son or p'sons of the other cuntry to pursue any goods or cattall fro' him or them taken that then he or they so doinge shall be taken and kept in ward w'thout bayle or maynprize unto such tyme that he or they letted & vexed shall be contented or paye of his goods or cattall. If any goods or cattall hereafter be stolne from the one cuntrye to the other by ignorant p'sons and their tractt brought to the cuntrye and then shewed to the Tenants and inhabitants of the same that the shall pay for the cattell within 15 days then next

ensuing or 4 of the best of the sayd tenants remayne in ward w'thout bayle or manprize unto the tyme the execution be payd etc.—" *Harl. MS., 1970, fo. 94.*

The foregoing compact between the two powerful Lords Marcher exhibits very clearly the conditions under which our ancestors in the Marches had to live. So recently as the time of Henry the Eighth, apparently antecedent to this compact, a man might have committed any crime in Powys and by stepping over the boundary into the Lordship of Oswestry he escaped with impunity and *vice versa*. BORDERER.

PAYMENTS IN THE CHURCH PORCH.—A LLANDISSILIO POULL DEDE, dated April 26, 1585. —About 20 years ago I purchased a many old deeds, connected with the County of Montgomery, from the late Mr Partridge, a bookseller, then residing at Wellington. Among them was a "Poll deed" relating to a piece of land called "Kae Maur," about 5 acres in extent, and another piece of about an acre, described as "Ardd Heme," both situated in the parish of Llandissilio. As the one piece was, at the time the money was lent, in the occupation of "one William Penryn," and as there has been some correspondence in the column about the Penrhyn family, I append a copy of the Deed, as it is not unlikely that some of your readers may even at this time be able to identify both pieces of land. The place in which the Mortgagor might, at the time, or one of the times agreed, repay the advance, will be observed.

Among the persons who witnessed the sealing of the document was one who possibly might have been the Incumbent of the parish. I have not any work of reference at hand to test this, but if he was the Incumbent that could doubtless be otherwise settled.

PEARMAN.

The following is a copy of the Deed:—

This indenture made the xxvth day of Aprell in the seavyn & * twentieth yere of the raigne of o'r Sou'aigne lady Elizabeth by the Grace of God of England fraunce & Ireland Queene defender of the faythe etc *Between* Jeu' ap Richard of Domgey in the Countie of Mountgomery gent. one th'one partie and Gruffith ap Jeu' ap Llew'n of Rndregynwyn in the said countie yeoman one th'other partie, *wytynessyth* that wheras the said Gruff ap Jeu' ap Llew'n for & in consideracon of the some of twentie pownde of lawfull and current money of england unto hym by the said Jeu' ap Richard before hand payd hath gyven granted and by his poul dede of fee Symple hath confyrmed unto the said Jeu' ap Richard all that one pasture of lande comonly called in Welsh *y kae maur* conteyning by estymacon fyve acres of land, scituat lyinge & beinge within the townshippe of Rndregynwyn in the said Countie in breadeth betwene the queene's highway there & a buttz of land of Thomas lloid on th' one syde and the lande of the said Gruff ap Jev' called *Y plasse* (?) one th' other syde and in lengthe extendyng from the queene's highway foresaid untill the lande of the said Gruff ap Jev' now beinge in the tenure of one *William penryn* and also one p'cell of land called *yr ardd heme* conteyninge by estymacon one acre of land and adioynynge to the said pasture called *Y Kae Maur*—*To have and to hold* all that the said pasture & p'cell of land above *speied* and ev'ry parte thereof w'tt appurtenances unto the said Jeu' ap Richard to his heires & assignes for evermore, as by the said poul dede of fee symple thereof made sealed and de-

* 1585.

lyvered and bearynge date the twentieth day of this instant moneth, of Aprell whereunto he hadd relacon, more (?) at lardge shall and may appere. Yet nevertheless the saide Jev' ap Richard covenanteth granteth & p'mytteth for hymself his heires & executors to and w'th the said Gruff ap Jev' ap Llew'n his heires & executors by these presents, that yf he the said Gruff ap Jev' ap Llew'n his heires executors assigns do truely content & pay or cause to be truely contented and paid unto the said Jev' ap Richard or to his certen attorney his heires executors or assigns on the feaste of Phillippe & Jacob th' apostles which shalbe in the yere of our Lord a thousand fyve hundredth nyntie and one or on the feaste of Phillippe & Jacob th' apostles which shalbe in th' ende of any three yeres duryng the space & terme of fyftene yeres next ensuyng the said feaste of Phillippe & Jacob th' apostles accompted in the yere of o'r lord god foresaid w'thin the church porteche of the p'she church of llan-dissillio in the said countie betwene the howres of eight & leavyn of the clocke in the fflore none of the same day or feaste the some of twentie poundes of lawfull & currunt money of england in one whole & entiere payment. *That then & from thenforth* the said poull dede of fee symple & lyv'ry of seissin thereupon delyv'd & executed, shall stand remayne & be as voed frustrat & of non effecte in the lawe and that yt shalbe lawfull to and for the said Gruff ap Jev' his heires & assigns & ev'ry of theym into the said pasture & p'cell of land above speied & ev'ry p'te thereof w'th app'tenances to rentre and the same as in his & their fyurst & f'rmer estate to reassume reseyse reheave & quietly enjoy, and the said Jev' ap Richard his heires executors & assigns & ev'ry of theym therof wholly to expulse (?) and amove this indenture or any thyng therein conteyned to the contrary therof in any wyse not withstandinge. *And the said Gruffith ap Jev'n ap llew'n* covenanteth granteth & p'myteth for hymself his heires & executors with the said Jev'n ap Richard his heires & executors by these p'sents that yf default of payment be made of the said some of twentie poundes or eny peny thereof, . . . † above exp'ssed *That then & from thenforth* the said poull dede of fee symple & lyv'ey of seissin therupon delyv'd & executed shall stand remayne & be in full force effecte power & vertue & that yt shalbe lawfull to & for the said Jev'n ap Richard his heires & assigns & ev'ry of theym all (?) that the said pasture & p'cell of land above speied & ev'ry p'te therof w'th appurtenances quietly to have enjoy & reiteigne for ev'rmore accordyng to the true meanyng teno'r pu'port effecte & entent of the said poull dede of fee symple therof made without lett interuption trouble entree vexacon eviction expulsion impleadyng or ageynstynge of the said Gruff ap Jev'n ap llew'n or of his heires executors or assigns or of eny other p'son or p'sons whosoever, *and also the said Gruff ap Jev'n ap llew'n* covenanteth granteth & p'myteth for hymself his heires & executors to & w'th the said Jev'n ap Richard his heires & executors by these p'sents that he the said Gruff ap Jev'n is they true owner & enherytor of the said pasture & p'cell of land above speied & of ev'ry p'te therof w'th appurtenances and hath full power and lawfull Authorytie to gyve grant bargaen & sell the same in fee symple unto the said Jev'n ap Richard to his heires & assigns forever in man'r & upon the condicions above expressed fully and clearly discharged acquyted & released of & from all & ev'ry other former bargaynes sales joynctures dowers leases uses wylls statutes feaffments recognysances and other embrances whatever *And further the said Gruff ap Jev'n ap Llew'n* covenanteth granteth & p'myteth for hymself his heires & executors to & w'th the said Jev'n ap Richard

his heires & executors by these p'sents that he the sayd Gruff ap Jev'n and his heires shall at all and evry tyme & tymes her'after at the lawfull & resonable requeste or requestes of the said Jev'n ap Richard & of his heires executors & assigns and at his & theyr costes & chardges in the lawe make knowledge & execute & suffer to be done made thyng & thynges acte or actes assuring & conveynting (?) in the lawe of in and upon the said pasture & p'cell of land above speied & ev'ry p'te therof w'th appurtenances be it by fyne feoffement dede or dedes indented & engrossed recovery release confirmacon w'th warrantye ageynst all man'r of p'sones or otherwyse, as shalbe best devysed or advysed by the said Jev'n ap Richard or by his heires executors or assigns or by his or their or eny of their learned counsell In wytnesse wherof eyther of the sayd p'ties to these p'sent indentures enterchanageably have putt their seales gevyn the day & yere fyurst above *wrytten*.

On the back of the deed is the following :—Sealed & delyv'd in the p'sens & sight of the p'sons subscribed videlt
John wyn tomas th'elder
David Vaughan ap Richard
Jev'n ap mores ap John wyn
Richar i ap Willm' taylor (?)
Peto Willm'o Caddw'r
Test : Willmo, Jeffrey clerck
Endorsed in another part "A mortgage upon Kay Mawr."

QUERIES.

DANTE AT SYCHARTH.—In the article on "Owen Glyndwr" in *Y Gwyddoniadur Cymreig*, vol. V., p. 94, col. 1, I find the following remarkable statement :—"In the summer of this year (1405) Dante, the celebrated Italian poet, was welcomed by Owen at Sycharth and Beddgelert. Owen translated into Welsh one of Dante's poems ; which shows that he appreciated Italian literature." Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* say on what authority this statement is made ; whether it is known which of Dante's poems Glyndwr translated, and whether the translation is still extant ? BONWM.

REPLIES.

DERVEL GADARN (Feb. 17, 1886).—Elis Price, LL.D., of Cambridge, and chancellor of the diocese of St. Asaph at the dissolution of the monasteries, was the second son of Robert ap Rice, M.A., of Plas Iolyn, who was also Chancellor before him (see Thomas's "St. Asaph"). As Elis Price was made Chancellor and Commissarie General in 1537, and the image burnt in 1538 (May), the letter would most likely have been written in April, 1537. BRYN.

CURRENT NOTES.

It is proposed to found a scholarship in the Manchester School of Art in memory of the late Mr Randolph Caldecott.

MISS HARTLEY of Llwyn, near Dolgelley, died on Wednesday, Feb. 24. Mr T. H. Williams, her nephew, succeeds to the property.

Mr Ellis Jones Griffith, of Downing College, and Tycoch, Llanidan, Anglesey, is President of the Cambridge Union Debating Society, whose new building was opened on Wednesday, Feb 24, by Prince Albert Victor of Wales.

In Manafon Churchyard a curious iron fence marks the spot where the cremated remains of a person

† Part of the document wanting here.

who died abroad are interred. This is probably the first time that cremated remains have been buried in North Wales in modern days.

THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD.—The ceremony of formally proclaiming the National Eisteddfod of Wales, which is to be held at Carnarvon on September 14th and three following days, took place on St. David's Day.

MARCH 10, 1886.

NOTES.

PAYMENTS IN THE CHURCH PORCH (Mar. 3, 1886).—In this district, during the 16th and 17th centuries, rents used frequently to be paid in the church porches. I have seen deeds in which engagements were made to pay money in the porches of Wrexham, Gresford, and Wrenbury (Cheshire) churches. I have also seen a deed in which it was agreed that the redemption money of a mortgage should be rendered at the altar of the Blessed Virgin in Wrexham Church.

Wrexham.

ALFRED NEOBARD PALMER.

TOM MOODY (Aug. 11, 1875; May 16, 1877).—In "Hunting" by the Duke of Beaufort and Mr Mowbray Morris, recently issued, we read—"Shropshire still cherishes the memories of Tom Moody (whose mystic fame, however, is by all accounts very much in excess of his actual merit) and the great 'Trojan,'—[Who was the great Trojan?], Sir Bellingham Graham (the only master of hounds Shropshire has known not native to the county), and wild Jack Mytton." Of Tom Moody there have already been notes in *Bye-Gones*, but the following song (copied from an old Scrap-book), I think, has not appeared. The incident which it relates is said to have happened in a public house, but not on Tom's death-bed. The song was published with an engraving of the mourners giving a view-halloo over the grave, which is at Barrow, near Wenlock. Where was Mr Inledon's benefit?

L.

THE DEATH OF TOM MOODY,
The noted Whipper-in, well-known to the Sportsman of
Shropshire,

By the Author of Hartford Bridge,
Composed by Mr Shield, and sung by Mr Inledon, on
Wednesday se'night, at his Benefit.

You all knew TOM MOODY, the *whipper-in*, well;
The bell just done tolling was honest TOM's knell.
A more able Sportsman ne'er followed a Hound,
Through a country, well known to him, fifty miles round,
No Hound ever *open'd* with TOM near the Wood,
But he'd *challenge* the tone, and could tell if 'twas good;
And all with attention would eagerly mark,
When he cheer'd up the Pack—"Hark! to *Rockwood*,
hark! hark!

*Hie! wind him! and cross him!
Now, Ratter, boy! hark!"*

Six crafty *earth-stoppers*, in Hunter's green drest,
Supported poor TOM to "an *earth*" made for rest;
His Horse which he styl'd his "Old Soul," next appear'd,
On whose forehead the *brush* of his last Fox was rear'd;
Whip, Cap, Boots, and Spurs, in a trophy were bound;
And here and there follow'd an old straggling hound,
Ah; no more at his noise yonder vales will they trace,
Nor the *Wrekin* resound his first *burst* in the chace.

*With hie over!—now press him!
Tally-ho!—tally-ho.*

Thus TOM spoke his Friends, ere he gave up his Breath—
"Since I see you're resolv'd to be in *the Death*,
One favour bestow—'tis the last I shall crave,
Give a rattling *View Hallo*—thrice over my grave!
And unless at that warning I lift up my head,
My Boys! you may fairly conclude I am dead!"

—Honest TOM was obey'd, and the shout rent the sky,
For every voice joined in the *Tally-ho* cry,

*Tally-ho! Hark forward!
Tally-ho! Tally-ho!*

QUERIES.

THE OWNER OF NEWSTEAD ABBEY.—It was announced in some of the papers for Sep., 1814, that Lord Byron had recovered Newstead Abbey; the gentleman who had purchased it having relinquished it, "and obtained another residence and extensive estates in Wales." Who was this gentleman, and where were the estates? B.

PHILIP HENRY'S WIFE.—Can you, Sir, or any of your numerous readers, answer the following:—In looking the other day through the "Encyclopædia Britannica" (1797 edition), I came across a notice of Philip Henry—father of Matthew Henry the commentator, in which he is said to have married the daughter and heiress of Daniel Matthews of Broad Oak, near Whitechurch. What family did this Daniel belong to? Bolton. E.M.

OSWESTRY INCORPORATION ROBBED.—Any information with respect to the Oswestry Incorporation is specially interesting just now. We always look to public companies being robbed more than private traders, perhaps because few men of business take the same care when acting on Boards as in their own Counting-houses. Still such frauds as the following paragraph indicates seem inexplicable.

July, 1820. Since the frauds upon the Oswestry House of Industry have been detected (the yearly amount of which since 1801 was enumerated at a meeting in Oswestry by the Hon. Thomas Kenyon) the poor's rate has been reduced above one half.

When was this meeting held? What were the frauds? And who was the clever rogue [or rogues] who kept the game alive nearly 20 years? Was Mr Kenyon the means of discovering the fraud? ENQUIRER.

REPLIES.

DANTE AT SYCHARTH (Mar. 3, 1886).—Before we decide whether Dante ever came to the neighbourhood of Oswestry (a most interesting question) we must know whether he ever visited England! A manuscript, of which a notice appeared in the *Academy* for Feb. 20 last, is there said to be "the sole authority for the celebrated tradition that Dante visited England and Oxford"; but it is pointed out that unfortunately "this statement is in unhappy proximity to some astoundingly fabulous matter." Twice over in this manuscript Dante's visit to Oxford is mentioned—"Studuit tam in Oxoniis in Regno Anglie quam Parisiis in regno Francie;" and again—He studied at Padua and Bologna, "demum Oxoniis et Parisiis (sic)." The writer, Mr E. Moore, says—"Much as one would wish to believe that Dante had visited Oxford, one cannot but note that (1) the statement is first made in

a work 100 years after his death, and is apparently wholly unconfirmed by any other testimony; (2) it is suspicious in a work written to please two English patrons, one of whom had been Chancellor of the University of Oxford; and (3) the very passage in which it occurs contains some monstrous and palpably false statements." The question now arises, *where* the writer in *Y Gwyddoniadur Cymreig* found the statement that Dante visited Glyndwr. And I should also like to know whether in the manuscript noticed in the *Academy* any date is given for the visit to Oxford, that we may see whether it is 1405, the year mentioned in *Y Gwyddoniadur*. It should be added that Mr Moore appends a footnote in which he says—"I do not forget the *poetical* allusion sometimes quoted from Boccaccio—

Parisiis demum extremosque Britannos.

But against this is to be set the significant silence of his *prose* Life of Dante. The following piece of negative evidence from Saviozzo da Siena (fourteenth century) is noteworthy:—

Dopo gli studi Italici, a Parigi
Volsse abbracciar filosofia e Dio.
Non molto stette poi riveder quici
La Scala, i Malespini, &c."

E.W.

CURRENT NOTES.

The parish church of Caynham, near Ludlow, was reopened on Friday, after having been entirely rebuilt with the exception of the tower, at a cost of £3,000. The sermon was preached by Bishop Staley.

The Marquis of Bute, who has undertaken to publish the successful translations of the *Alceists*, has consented to become president of the National Eisteddfod Association in place of the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynn.

The first lecture of the Cymmrodorion Society, announced for Thursday last, when Mr Egerton Phillimore was to have read a paper on "The Historical Triads of Wales," fell through, owing to the indisposition of the lecturer.

Through the agency of Mr R. J. David, clerk to the Carnarvon River Conservators, the experiment is being tried of stocking Welsh waters with Scotch fish, about 2,000 Loch Leven trout having this week been placed in Llanberis and Cwellyn lakes.

The death is announced of Mr John Jones of Blaenos, Llandoverly, Carmarthenshire. The deceased gentleman represented the county of Carmarthen in Parliament as a Conservative from 1868 to 1880. He was the youngest brother of the late Mr David Jones of Pantglas, who also had been member for the same county for many years. Mr John Jones was called to the Bar by the Hon. Society of the Middle Temple in 1869. He was a justice of the peace and deputy-lieutenant for the county of Carmarthen, and was a member of the banking firm of Messrs David Jones and Co.

The following is from "Leaves from our Early Issues," in the *North Wales Chronicle* (June, 1816):—"An exhibition, we believe totally novel in the Principality, took place at Llangefni in Anglesey on Friday last, a competition in sheephearing, for premiums offered by the Agricultural Society of that county. About one o'clock three candidates entered the lists, and finished their three sheep each in about an hour, in a manner that gave very great satisfaction to several hundred spectators assembled on

that occasion. The first premium was adjudged to Peter Evans, servant to the Rev. J. Williams; the second to William Lewis of Trevor Uchaf. When we consider the way in which the poor sheep are in general mangled in this country, we cannot but reckon this as one of the very great improvements introduced by these truly laudable societies."

The *Academy* says:—Subscribers to the *Revue Celtique* will remember the facsimile of the Welsh Grammar printed by Griffith Roberts in 1567. The book is without any indication of place; but a correspondence between Mr C. W. Williams Wynn and the late Mr Panizzi shows that it was published at "Mediolanum." Panizzi did not consider the type to be of an Italian character; but, accepting the place of publication as Milan he started the very ingenious theory that this might be Methlin in Montgomeryshire, or some other Welsh town representing the "Mediolanum" of the Antonine *Itinerary*. A single copy of a curious book called *Athrawaeth Gristnogawl*, bearing the imprint of "Milan, 1568," was afterwards discovered, and was reproduced in 1880 by Prince L. Bonaparte for the Society of Cymmrodorion. This revived the dispute as to Welsh-Milanese literature. Prof. Palgrave has now made discoveries at Milan which show Panizzi for once to have been mistaken on a point of this kind. An account of the whole matter will shortly appear in the *Cymmrodor*.

On Tuesday, March 2, the Chester and Holyhead line, by dint of extraordinary exertions, was finally cleared of the immense mass of snow that had drifted on to the line at Aber from the mountains overhanging. Many hundred tons were removed. A train which ran into a snowdrift on the Cambrian Coast line near Towyn was dug out. The engine proceeded some distance with extreme difficulty and then came to a standstill, and it was then found impossible either to go ahead or retreat. Snow was falling heavily, and in this dilemma the passengers got out and eventually found shelter with some shepherds, at whose houses they stopped. Snow again fell on Saturday in various parts of North Wales. The heavy snowfall of the early part of the week was followed by severe frosts. Reports from the mountain ranges of Snowdon, Cader Idris, the Berwyn range, and the hills enclosing the Vale of Llangollen, show that great numbers of sheep have been buried by the enormous snowdrifts, which in some parts have reached a depth of 15ft. to 20ft. It is estimated that some 8,000 or 10,000 sheep have perished on the Welsh hills during the present winter.

A Llangollen correspondent, writing to a contemporary, says:—The prolonged winter has made serious havoc with hay and food stores, which must be rapidly diminishing. It is indeed wonderful how the mountain sheep manage to exist. The grouse, too, on the higher hills, where the heather has been covered so long, must have suffered very severely, but they always escape any serious diminution of their numbers, even in the hardest winters. I have seen them during snow sitting like fowls on the wall tops in Derbyshire, waiting to be fed with oats by the keepers. They are kept back by extreme cold now from too early nesting, as the later frost and snow often do great damage to the first nests by adding the eggs when the birds are laying, making the second nests very late and the cheepers too numerous for satisfactory sport in August. Speaking of cold and eggs, it is most wonderful how the little grebe (the dabchick), with both its nest and addled looking eggs floating in the cold water, generally moored in some tuft of rushes a yard or two from the side of a pit, can ever hatch out its eggs. One of those natural miracles no one

can comprehend, especially as this bird is by no means a close siter. The peeled bark of all trees within its reach attests the presence of the rabbit; not even the turpentine of the fir tribe prevents its ravages. I see, too, the bark of the common laurel completely stripped, and even the standards of rose trees ruined in the same way. No fence can turn a rabbit, nor does anything escape his teeth. For lack of other food, I notice the squirrels feeding on the cones of the larch, the cores of which lie thickly strewn on the ground below the trees.

CONVERSAZIONE OF THE OSWESTRY AND WELSHPOOL NATURALIST FIELD CLUB.—In connection with this Club a conversazione was held in the Oswestry Mission Room, Castle-fields, on Wednesday afternoon, March 3. The proceedings began about half-past four with the playing of an overture on the pianoforte by Miss N. Davies, which was followed by an amusing recitation given by Mr Dunkin. After songs by the Rev. R. B. Faulkner, Mr Garfitt, and Mr Cuzner, of Chester, Mr M. S. Forster, head master of the Oswestry Grammar School, gave an address on "Hot Water," illustrated by experiments. By means of a glass float, which sank in hot water and floated in cold, he showed the greater density of cold water than hot. Water, it was explained, boiled in a normal atmosphere at 100 (centigrade), but when the air was rarer it would boil at a much lower heat, as at the top of a very high mountain, where water boiled at a temperature not sufficient to cook an egg or to make tea. After Mr Forster's address, Mr C. T. Reynolds gave a pianoforte solo, and songs were sung by Miss Feather and Mr Jones. Then followed an address by the Rev. Jenkyn Griffith on "Climatology, and the laws of currents and winds," illustrated by diagrams. The trade winds were caused by the evaporation made by the heat of the sun on the middle of the earth's surface, and the direction of the earth's revolution on her orbit. The annual heat of the sun, it was said, was as much as would melt 90 feet of solid ice over the whole surface of the earth. The lecturer combated the idea that the phases of the moon had an effect on the weather, and mentioned some of the absurd superstitions people held with regard to the moon's changes. He also explained and illustrated the construction of the barometer by filling a glass tube with quick silver.—The Rev J. I. Thomas sang, and a paper was next read by Mr H. T. Wakelam, C.E., Oswestry borough surveyor, on "Reservoirs," with special reference to the proposed Oswestry reservoir at Penygwely. Water, he stated, was first conveyed through pipes into houses in 1582, and small lead pipes were then used. About 1810 cast iron pipes took the place of lead. Rain water, which fell practically pure, became contaminated before it could be used. In reservoirs the heavier particles were got rid of by subsidence, but in order to render water properly pure it needed filtration. The average quantity of water used in Oswestry amounted to about 20 gallons per head per day last year. The average rain fall in England varied very much in different places. In one part it was 25 inches, while in another it was 75. In 1883, at Stye, Cumberland, it was 190 inches, while at Claxton, Essex, it was only 18. The level of the Llanwddyn lake, when full, would be 825 feet above the sea, and the water would flow through iron pipes to Liverpool, a distance of 67 miles. The Oswestry reservoir, when made, would be about 1,200 feet above the sea level, and would hold 24,000,000 gallons.—On the proposal of the Rev W. L. Martin, seconded by Mr Devaston, thanks were accorded the Rev O. M. Feilden (rector of Frankton), the secretary, and Mr Griffith for the manner in which they had arranged the Conversazione.—On the proposal of the Rev J. Griffith, seconded by Mr Wakelam, thanks were also accorded

those who had contributed to the evening's enjoyment.—Owing to the inclemency of the weather there was not a very large attendance.

CYMRU FU.

The office of parish clerk was a very important one in Wales in ancient times. It was the clerk that kept the time with the church bell for the different villages, and he received his wages in voluntary subscriptions at weddings and funerals, also an annual sum of money in the way of tithes from the bell sheaves, which are still received in most parishes. The bellrope was placed outside the steeple, and there was a path from the rope to the dial almost in every churchyard, where the clerk used to get the correct time. Hence began the custom in Wales, in asking the time, to say, "Faint yw hi o'r gloch?" Clocks were seldom met until the latter part of the last century. The first two clocks, which are similar, that came to the Vale of Tanad, are, the one in the servants' hall at Llangedwyn, and the other in the kitchen at Trebrys.

It was customary on Sundays when the Church service was over, to sell and order clogs in the churchyard in some of the mountainous parts of Denbighshire. An aged farmer remarked to a village shoemaker that the times had altered very much since the day when people used to buy clogs of Meirig Gethin in the churchyard on Sundays, "I don't know that," said the shoemaker, "Which do you think is the worse, having a pair of clogs on Sunday morning, and paying for them on hand, or receiving a pair of boots on Saturday night on trust, and never paying for them." The farmer failed to answer the question.—*Gweithiau Gethin.*

Bala was noted for woollen stockings. Lewis Morris says that £200 worth of stockings were purchased every week in Bala market in 1747, which were knitted within twenty miles of the town. Pennant relates that £350 worth were sold, on average from 2s 6d to 7s 6d per pair, in 1773. This flourishing business to a great extent has disappeared from the town and neighbourhood, and is considered amongst the by-gones.—*Ibid.*

The landlord on some estates in North Wales claimed when one of his tenants died the best animal on the farm, after the nearest relative had chosen first. It was called "Abediw." "The Abediw is not to be paid if a man is killed in the war with his Lord," wrote Cynddelw, the chair bard of Owen Cyfeiliog, Prince of Powysland. The first Lord Mostyn claimed it for a short time on some of his vast estates. Abediw was received on the Plasiolyn Estate, Denbighshire, in the time of the Red Doctor, father of Thomas Prys, the poet. He was satisfied for a time by a widow tenant with a fat goose, which the voracious doctor devoured on a meal, the poet alluding to the occurrence in the following couplet:—

Abediw fel abwydyn,
O wydd dew lyncodd y dyn.—*Ibid.*

The Vaughans of Nannau, by Dolgelley, were noted for their generosity and hospitality, and were often the theme of the bards in their wild songs and skilful odes. The Welsh minstrels also chanted their praises in stirring strains in by-gone days on the harp in the halls of Rûg and Nannau, when the Hirlas horn was filled to the very brim—

For the lords of the field in their festival's hour.

Lewis Morris, in one of his poems, describes the latter place in glowing language, viz.—

Tw'r Nannau, gorau lle gwerin,
Tw'r bronwych, fel ty'r Brenin,
Llyna gaer yn llenwi gwin.

Another poet, in alluding to their generosity, says—

Meirig Fychan o Nannau,
A rydd ych, oni rydd ddau.—*Gwyllydd, July, 1824.*

Bell Lloyd of Bodfach, and Doctor Worthington of Llanrhaiadr were great friends in their time. The Doctor was a bachelor, and a native of Park, Llanwnnog, his stature being short and stout. He was a voluminous writer, and very intimate with Pennant, Sir R. C. Hoare, and Doctor Johnson, who visited him at Llanrhaiadr in 1774. The great lexicographer was not pleased with the reception. His dinner did not satisfy him. Worthington was considered very benevolent and charitable to the poor. He frequently visited Bodfach. Bell Lloyd caused the following lines to be placed on the entrance gate of the upper lodge in respect of his worthy visitor—

O agor borth, na fydd yn gaeth,
I Doctor Worthington a'i fath.

Bell Lloyd was a native of Pontruffydd, near Denbigh, and father of the first Lord Mostyn. He married Ann Price, heiress of Bodfach, Glanmeheli, and Bottilbrook, Radnorshire. It was Bell Lloyd planned and constructed the new road leading from Llanfyllin to the summit of Berwyn. He also planted on the Bodfach estate 171,000 different trees, 5,000 oak trees, and reared 80,000 more, which he sent to other counties. It was he who first cultivated the Swedish turnip in North Wales. He tried the experiment in 1789, on the Crogen estate. Bell Lloyd augmented the Bodfach estate, by purchasing Tyntwll, &c., from Sir W. Williams Wynn, and a large portion of Bodfach park from the Humphreys of Llwyn. He died in London in 1793, and was interred in the family vault in Llanfyllin Church.

Llwyn Dedwydd.

LLIWARCH HEN.

Mr Andrew Lang, in *Longman's Magazine*, says:—In the volume on Salmon and Trout, in the *Badminton Library* (i. 102), we read: 'to the trout of Carnacldwy pools, near Rhayader, has been attributed the singular propensity of *croaking*; indeed the "croaking trout" are regarded as amongst the local lions.' 'They do decidedly utter a peculiar croak,' says an angler who has caught them; and the popular belief is that they were either bewitched by the monks of Strataflorida Abbey, or that they are trying to speak Welsh. Oddly enough, there were croaking trout in ancient Arcadia, and they certainly were 'amongst the local lions.' 'They say,' says Pausanias in his *Guide Book*, 'that the freckled fish chirp like birds. I have seen them caught, but chirp I never heard them, though I abode by the river till the going down of the sun, when the fish are said to be most vocal.' Pausanias was less lucky than the anglers of Wales. One has often heard a trout croak on dry land, but the noise seemed to be automatic, and the mere passage of air through the gills. (Pausanias, viii. 21).

STORIES OF PUBLIC MEN.

Mr J. C. Fowler of Swansea, in an entertaining paper in the *Red Dragon*, for March, "Recollections of Public Men," tells the following stories:—

When the Duke of Wellington was in England between the Peninsular War and the campaign of Waterloo, he accepted an invitation to the master's lodge at Trinity College, Cambridge, where a large number of dons and their ladies were asked to meet him. A lady, near whom he was sitting, alluded to the late war, and remarked that she had not been able to comprehend the reason of certain tactics employed in the battle of Salamanca. The duke happened to be wearing white breeches and silk stockings. "It was quite a simple manoeuvre," said he; "I can explain it in a minute." He took a pencil, put one leg over the other, and sketched the positions and the final flank attack upon the tight white cloth of the breeches, and with the help of this unique ground plan made his fair friend understand the cause of his victory. She was delighted,

and I was told that the next day she wrote a note to the duke, expressing her gratification at hearing such a lucid explanation of a battle from the conqueror's own lips, and adding a timid request that the *original plan* might be entrusted for preservation to her possession! My informant, who was in college at the time, said that he was not quite sure, but that he had reason to believe that the duke did kindly part with his white breeches to this intelligent lady.

We had on the circuit for some years a highly-educated young barrister, a first-class man at Oxford, and rich in legal knowledge. But his manner, tone, and temper were satirical and sarcastic, and Sir William Maule and Mr D—— were too much alike in that respect to work comfortably together. The judge loved to administer a snub to the satirical barrister. One day Mr D—— was interrogating a witness with his back turned to the judge, who suddenly gave a deep groan and said, "Mr D——." The counsel turned round and said, "Yes, my lord." Then the judge said in a rather sepulchral tone, "Mr D——, it has been ruled that when question and answer are partly sense and partly nonsense you may receive the sense and reject the nonsense, but I am of opinion that when question and answer are wholly nonsense every word becomes important. Have the goodness to repeat your question and I will take it down."

Lord Denman was, I think, the most imposing figure of a judge that I have ever seen. His face was a type of elderly masculine beauty, and his voice was one that it is impossible to forget. An amusing incident is said to have occurred to him when he was on circuit at Brecon many years ago. He was trying a prisoner for murder, and the crime of which he was accused had made a great sensation in that thinly populated county. The evidence did not satisfy his impartial mind that the accused had, beyond all reasonable doubt, committed the murder. He began his summing up by warning the jury against the influence of information, gossip, or comments, read or heard, before coming into the jury box, and the tenour of his charge was manifestly in favour of the prisoner. To his surprise and annoyance the jury convicted him. "Is that really your verdict," said he, "after you have listened to my summing up?" "Yes, indeed, my lord," said the foreman. "Then, may I ask," replied Lord Denman, "on what particular part of the evidence you have based your verdict?" "Well, indeed, my lord," said the foreman, "we did hear, most of us, at the turnpike as he did it."

Few readers of the *Red Dragon* can now remember the days when the jurisdiction over civil and criminal suits was wholly vested in the "Courts of Great Sessions" in Wales. Judges were appointed to these Courts at small salaries, and were not thereby excluded from practising at the Bar in the English Circuits. They were commonly known by the designation of "Welsh Judges." When I was a schoolboy, I was once at Haverfordwest, and was taken into the Court of Great Sessions, where I saw a "red judge," holding, I believe, the very last Court of Great Sessions, in full-bottomed wig, whom many years afterwards I met as a leading counsel on the Midland circuit. The Courts of Great Sessions were abolished in the first year of King William IV., and the Welsh judicature incorporated with that of England. It seems to have been the custom of the Welsh judges, whether other business was lacking or not, to discuss all sorts of subjects in their charges to the Grand Juries. In a house in Somersetshire belonging to a nephew of a Welsh judge I found a volume of charges to Grand Juries published by a Mr Justice Harding. One which was delivered in 1813 is so truly illustrative of the change of practice that I cannot forbear from quoting the commencement of it as

correctly as I can from memory. He said: "Gentlemen of the Grand Jury of the county of Brecon,—I am happy to see a full attendance of the gentlemen of your well-ordered county. It is my agreeable duty to tell you that your duties will be light and brief, because there is only one prisoner for trial, and that for a simple larceny which needs no comment from me. But, gentlemen, it is the good custom of the Great Sessions for the judge to address some remarks to the Grand Jury on topics of public interest and importance, and on this occasion I do not know that I can occupy you for a short time more profitably than by making some observations on the last campaign of Lord Wellington in Spain."

MARCH 17, 1886.

NOTES.

PAYMENTS IN THE CHURCH PORCH (March 10, 1886).—I, like your correspondent, Mr. Alfred Neobard Palmer, have seen deeds of the latter end of the 15th and generally through the 16th century, in which rents were required to be paid in the Church Porch. These Deeds referred to property in the Lordship of Halceator, in Montgomeryshire, and the Church porch was that of Hyssington. The rents were in money and other things; in one instance a "red rose," another "an iron needle" (*acu ferrum*). These rents were those reserved to the Lord, and usually payable at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel. PEARMAIN.

MASTERS AND SERVANTS EIGHTY YEARS AGO.—The following notice appears in the Salopian Journal of April, 1802, illustrating the relationship between masters and servants at that date.

"Whereas Samuel Pedley Clock Maker is under an agreement to Robert Webster of this Town for near Two years to come, notwithstanding which he scarcely works one-third of his Time and that without any one just cause but the Effect of *Idleness and Drunkenness*. This is therefore to warn all Persons whomsoever against harbouring or employing him after this notice, as they will be dealt with as the law directs.—Shrewsbury, April, 1802." BE.

OSWESTRY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—The following is a "prospectus" for 1796:—

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL AT OSWESTRY Will be opened on Monday the 4th of April, when young Gentlemen will be Boarded and Instructed in Writing and Arithmetic, the Latin and Greek Classics, French, Geography, Ancient and Modern History, Astronomy, and the Use of the Globes, Geometry, Algebra, and the different Branches of the Mathematics.

By the Rev James Donne A.M. and his Assistants.

The Situation of the School is healthful and pleasant; the House, commodious, and the Play Grounds extensive.

Particular Attention will be paid to the Moral and Religious Instruction of the Young Gentlemen; and nothing shall be left undone that can promote their Health and Comfort, as well as their Progress in the various Branches of useful and polite Learning.

Entrance, Two Guineas	} per	annum.
Board, Twenty-two Guineas		
Tuition, Two Guineas		

SCHOLAR.

ABERYSTWYTH "PEER" [PIER].—In the Morrisian Manuscripts in the British Museum are the

following Notes relating to a project on foot, about the year 1740, to erect a *Pier* at Aberystwyth for the "advancement of the fishery and other branches of trade." They partake much of the character of "Specifications" for the work, and show how prices ruled in 1740. Accompanying the same are "Figures," or detail sketches, and a "Draught Plan" of the town and the harbour, and the site of the proposed pier, etc. The plan which I here give is an accurate facsimile drawing of it. But it has some additional interest in an archaeological sense, as it indicates the position of parts of the old town walls, then standing. The Notes and Plan are by Mr Lewis Morris (*Ll. Ddu o Fon*), who was at the time one of the Hydrographers to the Board of Admiralty. Is there any tradition at Aberystwyth of this project? T.W.H.

A Pier proposed to be Built at Aberystwyth in South Wales, For the advancement of the Fishery and other Branches of Trade.

Whereas the Bar at the Entrance of the Rivers *Rheidol* & *Ystwyth* is so exceeding bad and dangerous, and so greatly obstructive to the Fishery, a most valuable Branch of the British Trade, which for several years past hath Abounded in this Bay in such Manner that One Boat in two hours Time hath frequently taken Sixty Thousand Herrings.

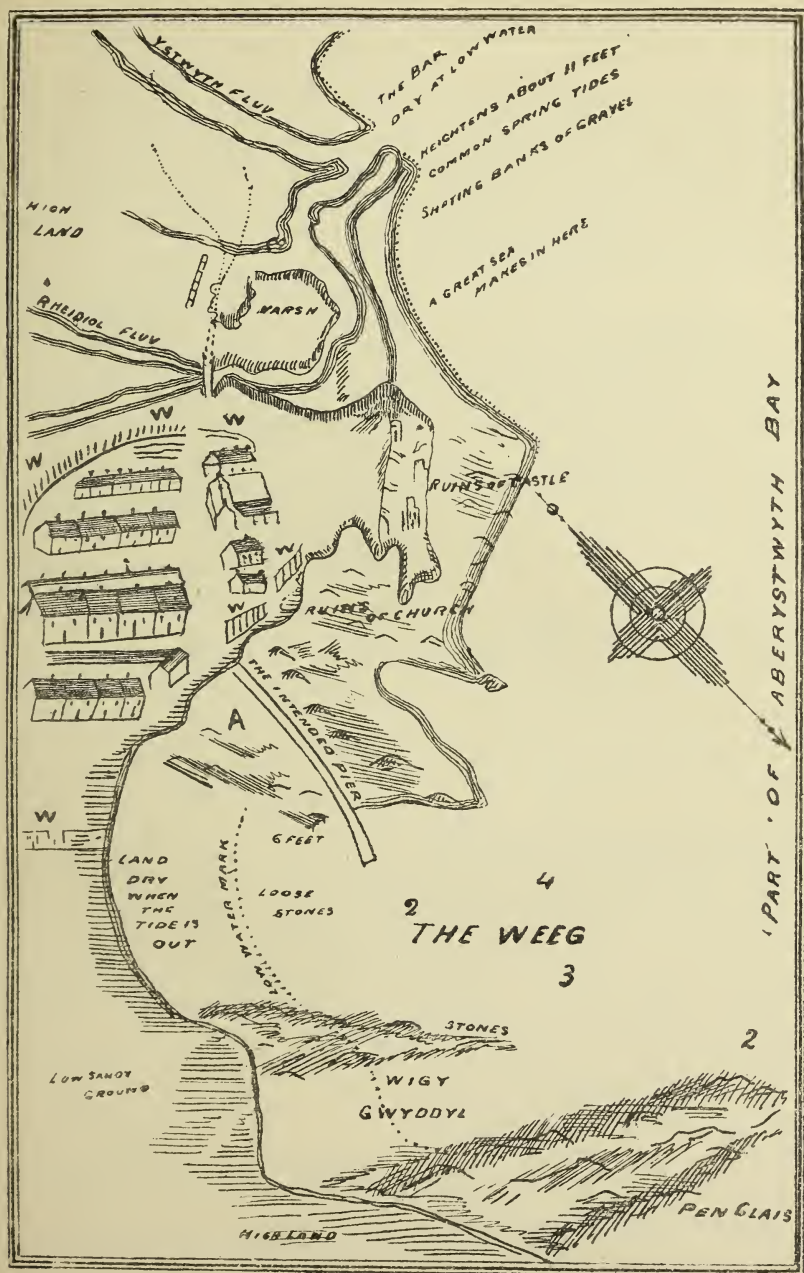
By the Joynt Advice of the neighbouring Gentlemen and the Inhabitants of this place, *It is Proposed* to Build a Stone Peer on the North side of the Town, Extending from the Bank at Highwater Mark (along the Rocks on the South Side of a Sandy Bight called *Y Wig*, or *Weeg*) below Lowwater Mark, so that a Vessel of Twenty Ton may come with safety at Lowwater on common Spring Tides.

The whole length of the Peer to be about Two Hundred Yards, containing about Fourteen Thousand Cubic Yards, To be built at the expense of about Two Thousand Five Hundred Pounds, as by the following Estimate:—

	£
1. Two floats and their materials to convey the Larger Kind of Stones... ..	200
2. Two Casks for Slinging of Midling Stones, Chains, Ropes, Bars, Augers, Wedges, and repairs of Tools... ..	200
3. Gunpowder to Blow Rocks, Capstains, Beams of Wood in the work and Scaffolding Timber	150
4. Boat Hire to Sling Stones and to Tow the Flats and Casks & Freight to carry materials	200
5. Cranes, Levers, Handscrows, and other Engines to bring the Stones to their work	150
6. Workmen's wages immediately on the Peer	400
7. Labourers' wages in Quarrying of Stones for the Peer, attending the Floats, Carts, &c.	400
8. Blowing and Removing a Flat of Rocks that lie within the Peer containing about Six Thousand Cub. yds.	300
9. Paving the Top of the Peer, ab't 1,600 Superf'l y'ds...	40
10. The Breast work or Battlement to be wrought with Lime and secured with Timber, containing about 400 Cub. y'ds	80
11. Undertaker or Overseer's wages and allowances for Clerks & Stewards. Supposing the work to be done in 3 years	380

£2,500

W. W. W. Denote the ruined walls of ye Town.
 A. Denotes the Rocks to be blown away, & make ye Harbour within ye Peer, as in Article 8 of ye Estimate.
 The Figures 2, 3, 4, &c., show the Fathoms in Depth at Low water.



† — Show the best places for vessels to lie. (These are not very clear, but lie under "the intended pier.")
 Other figures, which it is not necessary to give, show the end of the Pier at low water, and there is the following note:—"There must be a Large Capstain at ye End of the Pier to assist to Haul Vessels in. And the Lanthorn which is now kept at the Expende of the Fishery must be removed to the Extream end of the Peer."

QUERIES.

THE MOTTO OF THE GWYDIR FAMILY.—I find no family motto given in the *History of the Gwydir Family*. Can anyone say what it was?

W. A. D.

THE MOUNTAIN ASH AS A CHARM.—In Pennant's "Tour in Wales" (Vol II., p. 307, Edition 1882), he states that in former times a superstitious use was made of the wood of the *sorbus aucuparia* (mountain ash). A piece, made in the form of a cross, was carried in the pocket as an infallible preservative against all sorts of fascinations. Pennant was writing of people in the district around Llanrwst. Is there any lingering tradition of this now? Why was the mountain ash supposed to possess this miraculous quality?

SNOWDONIA.

REPLIES.

DE QUINCEY AT OSWESTRY (Feb. 24, 1886).—In my recent communication to *Bye-Gones* respecting the family of the late Mr Edward Edmunds, I spoke with uncertainty. I am happy to say that I have now received a letter from his son, the Rev John Edmunds, M.A., Honorary Canon of Durham, informing me that his sisters, Mary, Maria, and Laura, are still living. Anna died of paralysis last year. The whole family (Edward and Anna deceased, and John, Mary, Maria, and Laura living) are thus accounted for.

Castle View, Oswestry. THOS. MINSHALL.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Committee appointed by the Cambridge Philological Society to draw up a scheme of reformed pronunciation of Latin have sent in their report, and lay it down that the English pronunciation of the long vowels should be completely discarded. "A" should be as "a" in "psalm," "e" as the French "é," "i" nearly as the "i" in "machine," and so on. This will make it easier for Welsh students to read the Latin Classics with the true pronunciation than for English students, as the reformed pronunciation will be almost exactly like the Welsh pronunciation of those vowels.

In "Debrett's House of Commons" for 1886, the editor states that in preparing this edition he met with unusual reticence on the part of many new M.P.'s, some of whom supplied the briefest possible information concerning themselves, while others neglected to give any indication as to their places of residence. The editor also mentions as a fact worthy of note that "several M.P.'s who, shortly after the election, stated that they did not bear arms, afterwards furnished drawings or blazons, and particularly requested that engravings should be executed. Most of these requisitions, however, arrived too late. Possibly some of the illustrations are arms of assumption, if so, I can only remark that they have been copied from plates or seals supplied by the gentlemen using them." How far does this affect Welsh and Border Counties members? How many of the Welsh and Border Counties members have armorial bearings and when were they assumed by them or their ancestors?

In the House of Commons on Thursday, on a vote for public buildings, Captain Verney called attention to the subject of Menai Bridge. That bridge, he said, was the only means of communication between two counties. All other roads and bridges in these two counties were under local management, but the suspension bridge was far too important to be placed in the hands of the counties. It

was a great Government work. He complained that the tolls upon the bridge were excessive, and were a great injury to both counties. The bridge was largely used by tourists who came to see the beautiful scenery, and in consequence of the exorbitant tolls they were accustomed to drive up to one end of the bridge and leave their carriages there. The hon. member commended the subject to the attention of the Secretary to the Treasury, and hoped that some means would be taken to reduce the tolls.—Mr H. H. Fowler said he hoped the committee would now apply to Wales the principle which an hour or two ago they so very determinedly applied to London. (Cheers.) The Menai Bridge was built out of loans advanced by the Government. In March, 1885, the principal debt due to the Government was £231,498, and there was an accumulation of interest of £471,308, making a total liability in respect of this bridge of £702,806. The tolls of which his hon. friend had complained had amounted since 1873 to £18,510, and, making no charge for the interest, the building had cost the Government during these twelve years £10,809. The net profit, therefore, on this bridge, which owed the nation nearly three-quarters of a million, was £641 per annum, and yet in these circumstances the hon. member asked for a still further reduction. In 1881 an offer was made to the local authorities of Anglesey and Carnarvon to hand them over this bridge on payment of a lump sum to be agreed on. That offer was declined by a joint committee of both counties. He could hold out no hope of a reduction. (Hear, hear.)—Mr Thorold Rogers asked if it was not the case that Menai Bridge was originally constructed in order to form a military road through North Wales to Ireland.—Mr Fowler could not tell for what purpose the bridge was constructed. His hon. friend might be historically right.

NATURAL HISTORY.—Mr C. W. Lloyd, naturalist, of Ellesmere, has now a Royston Crow in hand which was shot on Saturday in the Duke's Woods, near Ellesmere. The bird, which is a very fine one, resembles an ordinary crow, except that the whole of the body is of a slate colour, the head, wings, and tail being black. Mr Lloyd has also a Sparrow Hawk which was shot near Ellesmere, the feathers on the back of which are slate coloured.

THE LATE MISS JENKINS, OF CHARLTON HILL.—Miss Jenkins, of Charlton Hill, died on Monday, March 8. The deceased lady was the eldest daughter of the late Mr Robert Boycott Cressett Leighton Jenkins, of Charlton Hill, and Elizabeth, his wife, the second daughter of Mr Richard Jenkins, of Bickton Hall—a sister of the late Sir Richard Jenkins, G.C.B., who was some time M.P. for Shrewsbury. The late Miss Jenkins was 74 years of age. The funeral of the deceased lady took place on Friday afternoon, at Leighton, and in consonance with her last wishes, the ceremony was of a simple character. In the absence of the vicar of the parish, the Rev W. Wingfield officiated. Innumerable wreaths, crosses, &c., were sent by friends.

MARCH 24, 1886.

NOTES.

A MONTGOMERYSHIRE SUPERSTITION.—A day or two ago a shoemaker brought a pair of boots home for the writer, and quite innocently placed them on the table in the sitting room, when the writer's wife hastily picked them up saying, "Oh! you should not have done that, it is very unlucky to put a pair of boots or shoes on a table!"

CYNIC.

EVENTS.—From *London Gazette* for July, 1754.—“John Jeffreys, esq., to the office of keeper of the change & money within His Majesty's Tower of London; & of keeper of the coinage of gold & silver within the part of his Majesty's Kingdom of Great Britain called England.” “Evan Vaughan, Esq., to the office of Constable of Harlech Castle, in North Wales, & the castle yard & castle green there.” From the *Universal Magazine*, Sept., 1754:—“Married—Charles Vann, junr., Esq., of Llanwern, Monmouthshire, to Miss Kitty Morgan, dau. to Colonel Morgan, Rupera, the present member for the co. of Brecon.” Brecknock. E.P.

QUERIES.

OLD TOWER HALF-PENCE.—What coinage is alluded to in the following announcement in the *Salopian Journal* of January 26, 1803?

Old Tower Half-Pence will be taken at the Corner of Ox Lane near the Butter Cross, Shrewsbury.

J. Davies takes this opportunity to return Thanks to his Friends for past Favours and respectfully informs them that the remaining Part of the Stock of Linen Drapery and Mercery Goods will continue to be sold under Prime Cost for one month only: during which Time the Old Tower Half-Pence will be received in payment at Thirteen Pence to the Shilling; the *Penny* being for Carriage. CROESWYLAN.

NEWCOME FAMILY.—BAXTER FAMILY.—I should be exceedingly obliged if any contributor to *Bye-Gones* will be kind enough to inform me in what way the late Archdeacon Newcome, Warden of Ruthin (1809-1851), and the author of various well-known antiquarian works, was connected with Dr. Richard Newcome, Bishop of Saint Asaph (1761-1769) and with the Rev. Henry Newcome, vicar of Gresford (1764-1803). I should also be glad to know something of the family to which the Rev. John Baxter, rector of Newtown (1702-1718), belonged. Was he one of the Baxters of Llanllugan? ALFRED N. PALMER. Wrexham.

REPLIES.

WELSH CIRCUITS (Feb. 24, 1886).—In reply to “H.W.L.” I think it is clear that there were certainly four circuits, viz., the Carmarthen, the Brecon, the North Wales, and the Chester. In March and April, 1755, the Hon. Wm. Noel and Hon. John Talbot took the Chester circuit, composed of the counties of Montgomery, Denbigh, Flint, and Cheshire. In July, 1756, Rogers Holland and Taylor White were the justices on the “North Wales” circuit, comprising Anglesea, Carnarvon, and Merioneth. The spring and autumn assizes appear to have been held at Brecon and Chester, and the summer and winter deliveries at Carmarthen and North Wales counties. I have given in previous issues a list of the “old Brecon judges.” Will other kind friends do the same for the North Wales, Chester, and Carmarthen circuits? E.P. Brecknock.

DERVEL GADARN AND ELIS PRICE.—(Feb. 17, Mar. 3, 1886).—Pennant, in his description of portraits at *Bodscallan* (Vol III., p.

132, Ed. 1882), says “But the most remarkable is that of Dr. Ellis Pryse of Plas Yolin, in *Denbighshire* dated 1605; a creature of the earl of *Leicester's* and devoted to all his bad designs. *Pryse's* dress is a white jacket, with a broad turn over; his hair yellow, and his beard thin, and of the same color, his visage very long, lank, and hypocritical. He was the greatest of our knaves in the period in which he lived, the most dread oppressor in his neighbourhood, and a true sycophant; for a common address of his letters to his patron was *O LORD, in thee do I put my trust!*” There is a genealogical reference to Elis Price at p. 442 in the same volume. KELT.

PHILIP HENRY'S WIFE (March 10, 1886).—*Philip Henry's wife* was Katharine, only child and heir of Daniel Matthews, gentleman, of Maesllwyn, in Bronington, parish of Hanmer, Co. Flint, by his wife, Sarah Benyon of Ash Magna, Salop, who brought Broad Oak as her marriage portion, as it had been that of her mother, Jane Howell, before. The descent of the family is given in Matthew Henry's handwriting, beginning with these words, “A pedigree of the Matthews's which I find in my Grandfather Matthews's hand,” and is traced up to Bledlyn ap Cynfyn, Prince of Gwynedd and Powys, who died in 1072, through Einion Efell. Their surname was derived from Matthew Goch, one of the family of Sionas or Jonas of Penley, who is described as a great Captain in France. He bore, azure 3 boars argent pass en pale. William of Worcester says that his “father's name was Ewenus, and his mother's Hawys, a daughter of Davy Handmere.” As in this case he would be nephew to Matthew Hannemere, rector of Hanmer about 1387, and his Christian name be accounted for, I think it is more probably the correct version than that given in Powys Fadog, iii., 396. Matthew Goch married Margaret, daughter of Bryan de Harley, Kt., and according to our pedigree had one daughter and heir, Margaret, who married Madock, 28 Henry VI.; and their grandson was named Matthew. Matthew Goch's career ended on London Bridge in 1450, in Jack Cade's rebellion. There is no doubt that the Matthews took their name from him, and that afterwards, in 1662, Philip Henry tried to sooth his father-in-law by calling his second son Matthew.

The Matthews had lands in every part of Hanmer parish, and indeed of English Maelor, but at present are represented only by Joseph H. Lee, Esq., of Redbrook, Rev. J. P. Hastings of Martley Rectory, and T. Hughes, Esq., of Ystrad. Philip Henry, writing in 1670, mentions his wife's property as 1, lands of ancient inheritance, and 2, lands purchased by Daniel Matthews. Whether the first belonged originally to the family, or came with Margaret Goch, is now impossible to say. A large part of English Maelor belonged to descendants of Tudor Trevor, who were the nobility of Powys, and had been its earlier Princes, but in the Matthews', Phillips of Gwernhaelod, and (f) the Lloyds of Plas du (now of Croesmere) we have representatives of the later Princes of Powys, who were of the S. Wales family. By a deed dated at Dynasbran, Dec. 22, 1270, the sons of Griffin, Lord of Bromfield, concede to the Lady Emma, their mother, for the term of her life, the Country of Mailor Saisenek, with the appurtenances, the Manor of Overton,

with the mill and stream and all other appurtenances, the Manor of Hagname (Hammer) with the appurtenances, Lannerpanna, Colton, &c., &c. The tithes of Overton are also mentioned in the Inq.-post-mortem as belonging to her. The whole came into possession of Edward I., after 1284.

From the above it will appear probable that other members of the same family might still hold lands in English Maelor.

M. H. LEE.

"E.M." puts the question, "What family did this Daniel (Matthews) belong to?" The only information I am able to obtain on this head is scant and traditional, and is contained in Sir John Bickerton Williams's "Life of Philip Henry," p. 64, where it is stated that "Mr Matthews was a gentleman of a very competent estate," and a note says that he was "descended, as is the tradition of the family, from Matthew Gough (from whom came the name of Matthews), a noted commander in the wars of France, under Henry V., and killed upon London Bridge in Henry the Sixth's time, in the suppression of Wat Tyler's rebellion." Mr Matthews was averse to his daughter becoming the wife of Philip Henry on the ground that "although Mr Henry was a gentleman and a scholar, and an excellent preacher, he was quite a stranger, and they did not even know where he came from." Miss Matthews, being less careful as to his earthly descent than of his heavenly destination, said, "True, but I know where he is going and I should like to go with him."

T.M.

CURRENT NOTES.

Last week a number of sand martins were noticed flying about near the Shrewsbury Station Bridge.

A portrait of the Bishop of Chester, subscribed for by his friends at Oxford, has been placed in the Bodleian Library.

One farmer in the neighbourhood of Capel Curig is said to have lost about a thousand sheep through the recent inclement weather. A vast number of sheep have been lost on the mountains around Carnedd Llewelyn.

Mr W. Abraham, M.P., has just been presented by Mrs Gladstone with an elaborate artificial leaf. The stem is composed of silver artistically interwoven, whilst the leaves of the trophy are represented by stripes of bright green ribbon.

I believe (says a London correspondent) the Rev Richard Roberts is the first President of the Wesleyan Conference who in his official capacity has obtained the honour of being presented at Court, but I am told on good authority that the right will be recognised in the case of each future President.

Sir Richard Bulkeley, Bart., who enjoys the distinction of being the youngest Mayor in the United Kingdom, was on Tuesday, March 16, presented by the members of the Corporation of Beaumaris with a congratulatory address on the occasion of his marriage with Lady Magdalen Yorke, daughter of the Earl of Hardwicke.

The death is announced of Mr William Tollemache, son of the late Hon Charles Tollemache. He married Lady Anna Maria, daughter of the eleventh Duke of Somerset, and leaves one son (Major Tollemache), and three daughters, Lady Forester, Mrs Marcus Hare, and Miss Caroline Tollemache.

Captain Gwynnet Tyler, of Mount Gernos, Cardigan-shire, died a few days ago. The deceased gentleman was one of the most prominent and hardworking magistrates of the county. As an employer of labour his kindness and consideration won for him the friendship of a numerous body of the workmen employed on the Gernos estate and at the Maesllyn woollen factory.

Mr Robt. Roberts, son of the late Mr Rowland Roberts, builder, Upper Bangor, now in Madrid, has been elected a member of the Municipal Council in that City. He is believed to be the first Welshman who has ever had that honour conferred upon him. Mr Roberts, who is a contractor in a large way of business, is the representative of 10,000 inhabitants in Madrid.

A window has been placed in the transept of the Parish Church of Norton in Hales in memory of the late Rector, the Rev F. Silver. It bears the inscription, "To the glory of God, and in grateful memory of Frederick Silver, M.A., for 34 years rector of Norton, who restored this church and gave the organ, this window is dedicated by parishioners and friends, 1886."

A handsome oak pulpit, the gift of a lady, has been fixed in Wistanstow church. The plan is five sides of an octagon, and it stands at the corner of the crossing, the plan of the church being cruciform. It is heavily moulded and carved, and on the four principal panels stand the figures of the four Evangelists on carved corbels. The base of the pulpit is stone. The carving was executed by Mr G. L. Landucci of Shrewsbury.

THE ARCHDEACONRY OF SALOP.—The Ven. Archdeacon Allen has resigned the office of Archdeacon of Salop, which he has held for twenty eight years, through failing health, and Canon Lloyd, vicar of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, has been appointed in his place.

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM HUGHES.—It is with regret that we record the death, on Thursday last, of Mr William Hughes, who has for little more than twelve months held the public appointment of librarian at the Shrewsbury Free Library. Mr Hughes was selected as librarian from a large number of applicants, an office for which he was excellently qualified, but shortly afterwards he was seized with an illness from which he never thoroughly recovered. Mr Hughes was well known for his antiquarian tastes, and took a great interest in publications like *Bye-Gones*, to which he was an occasional contributor. He was at one time editor of *Salopian Shreds and Patches*.

MARCH 31, 1886.

NOTES.

SIR WATKIN AS A PLANTER.—We are told in some of the newspapers of the time, that Sir Watkin Williams Wynn kept on planting up to 1820, upon the mountainous lands near Llangollen, and that the trees included 80,000 oaks, 63,000 Spanish chestnuts, 102,000 Spruce fir, 110,000 Scotch fir, 90,000 larches, 30,000 wych elms, 35,000 mountain elms, 30,000 ash, and 40,000 sycamores.

ARGUS.

TITLES FROM WALES.—Amongst the Manuscripts of Charles Fleetwood Weston Underwood, Esq., included in the Reports of the Historical Manuscripts Commission is a letter addressed to Lord Townshend (undated) in 1727 or 1728, from John Anstis, Garter King of Arms, suggesting "whether in case His Majesty pleases to create Prince Frederick a Duke it may not be thought proper at the same time to convey the like Honour upon Prince William." After giving his rea-

sons, which are based upon the effect of the statute of 31 H. 8, Garter King of Arms goes on to say "the Assumption of Titles seems to depend much upon Fancy, wherein there hath been and always will be difference of Opinions. . . . All the Counties of England and Wales give Denominations save the following ones. [We give only the remarks on the Welsh counties, the others being Gloucester, Northumberland, Cumberland, & Lancaster].

Flint was never a title but esteemed an appendage to the Earldom of Chester.

Brecknock is void by the attainder of the late Duke of Ormond.

Glamorgan, the family of Beaufort allege they have some signet from Charles the first, but no Patent.

Merioneth is a word of that sound, but no person ever took it.

. . . If new Titles should be pitched upon then they may for the greater Honour be taken from the Principal places in England, Scotland, Ireland, & from the Principality of Wales & Dutchy of Cornwall." Amongst the titles suggested are "Viscount of Aberffraw & Snawdon, which were the titles of the ancient Princes of Wales before they were conquered by Edw. I. Baron of Lancaster or Trematon, wch later Titles from Wales & Cornwall will (I think) be a compliment to the Prince." When the Prince of Wales's eldest son is created a peer, why not give him the ancient title of "Aberffraw & Snowdon"? E.W.

LLYN DULYN ON SNOWDON.—The extraordinary property of producing rain, when spilt upon stone, is attributed to the waters of Llyn Dulyon on Snowdon, according to the following account which is translated from the *Greal*, a Welsh magazine, published in London in 1805:—"There is a lake in the mountains of Snowdon, called Dulyon, in a rugged valley, encircled by high steep rocks. This lake is extremely black, and its fish are deformed and unsightly, having large heads and small bodies. No wild swans are ever seen alighting upon it (such as are on all the other lakes in Snowdon) nor ducks, nor any bird whatever. And there is a causeway, on which if a person stands, even when it is hot sunshine, and throws water so as to wet the furthest stone, which is called the Red Altar (yr Allawr Goch), it is a chance if it do not rain before night. Witness T. Prys of Plas Iolyn, and Sion Davydd of Rhiwlas in Llan Silin." (Guest's *Mabinogion*, p. 77 note.) BETA.

OLD COACHING DAYS.—The following announcement is interesting:—

THE BOWLING-GREEN

(or Sir Watkin Williams Wynn's Arms)

Oswestry

WILLIAM LEIGH

From Hockley House

Begs Leave to acquaint the Nobility, Gentry and others Travelling from Ireland to London, Bath, Bristol & that he has taken and entered upon the above Inn, on the Great Road from Holyhead to London, through Shrewsbury (which avoids Conway Ferry) and that he has fitted up the same in a superior Style of neatness with new Beds, and every other requisite for the Accommodation of Families and the Public in general, whose Patronage and Support he humbly Solicits and will endeavour to merit by every Attention in his Power.

N.B.—Post Coaches and Chaises with capital Horses, and experienced Sober Drivers. A Stage Coach for the Conveyance of Passengers, Parcels &c travels Daily through Oswestry to Holyhead, London, Bath, Bristol, and every part of England.

Funerals furnished.

April 12, 1802.

The Friends of Mr Leigh and the Well-wishers to the House are respectfully informed that the Housewarming is fixed for Monday the 2^d instant.

Sir W. W. Wynn Bart and } Presidents
C. W. W. Wynn Esq }
Dinner at Three o'clock.

OLD OSWESTRY.

QUERIES.

SPYTTY.—There are several places in Wales in which the foregoing word forms a part of the place name, such as "Spytty Evan," "Spytty Cynfyn," &c. What is the meaning of "Spytty" in this connection?

INQUIRER.

MONTGOMERY TOWN HILL.—Is there any plan in any antiquarian work depicting the ancient British earth works on Montgomery Town Hill; if not, could any correspondent of *Bye-Gones* say what is the area enclosed by the ditches, in acres? Was the work, judging by present appearances, constructed to resist an enemy coming from the English or Welsh side—and was there any presumed connection between this and the work at Hendomen, which is not far from the Town Hill? ETA.

OFFA'S DYKE.—Pennant stated in his *Tours* that on some parts of Offa's Dyke at the Northern end, that is, in Denbighshire and Flintshire, there were remains on the summit of the work resembling Watch Towers. As the Dyke is in a very perfect condition in many parts between Montgomery and Knighton, are there, or has anyone noticed, similar constructions on any portion of the Dyke between the two latter points? If any correspondent of *Bye-Gones* who knows the district could answer the query he would confer a favour. LEX.

REPLIES.

OSWESTRY INCORPORATION ROBBED (March 10, 1886).—I have searched the minutes of the Incorporation, and find that the frauds mentioned in your query appear to have been committed by Mr Thomas Armson, who was on the 1st of May, 1809, appointed Master (or, as then called, Steward) and his wife Matron of the Workhouse, he having been previously appointed Steward on 1st July, 1808. From the minutes it would appear that everything went on smoothly from the date of such appointments up to the Autumn of 1819, when suspicion seems to have been aroused that the Steward was not acting correctly, as the following extracts from the minutes will show:—

"11th October, 1819. Ordered that Mr. Armson hereafter make no purchase of any commodity for the use of the Establishment above the amount of forty shillings without the consent and approbation of the Directors.

"18th October, 1819. Ordered that Mr. Armson do not sell or dispose of any commodity belonging to the Establishment above the amount of forty shillings with-

out the consent and approbation of the Committee acting for the commodity to be sold.

"25th October, 1819. Ordered that Mr. E. B. Marriott [the Comptroller], shall have the care of the Steward's [Armson's] Cash Book until further Order.

"1st November, 1819. Ordered that Mr. Temple, Mr. Marriott, and the Reverend George Evans be a Committee to examine the Accounts of the Steward, Mr. Armson, and he is hereby Ordered to attend the Committee whenever he may be required, and give such information as lies in his power towards elucidating and rectifying the Accounts.

"29th November, 1819. Ordered that a Special Meeting of the Directors be held on Saturday, the 4th of December next to take into consideration the Accounts of the Committee, and for other purposes."

As will be seen by the next extract this led to the dismissal of the Steward.

"4th December, 1819. Resolved that Mr. Armson, the Steward to this Establishment, be this day discharged from his situation, and likewise Mrs. Armson from her situation as Matron.

"The Committee appointed for examining the Accounts of Mr. Armson having proceeded in the examination of the same, and having discovered that Mr. Armson has been guilty of the grossest frauds and impositions during the whole period of his service, it was the unanimous opinion of this Meeting, and it is hereby resolved, that legal proceedings should be instituted against him, and that Mr. Lewis Jones do immediately take such steps as may be deemed expedient towards carrying this resolution into effect.

"6th December, 1819. Ordered that all the goods, chattels, and other effects belonging to Mr. Armson, late Steward, be disposed of by public auction, and the money arising therefrom be paid into the hands of the Treasurer for the use of this Establishment."

No entry in Treasurer's book to be found of this. "Ordered that Mr. Lewis Jones [the clerk] immediately advertise the late Steward, Mr. Armson, who has escaped from the custody of the Constable, and that handbills be circulated accordingly, and the same advertised once in each of the Shrewsbury papers."

I have heard thirty years ago from very old inmates that Mr. Armson, being in custody, was left in the Master's room on the ground floor, when he took the opportunity of escaping by the window, and was never afterwards heard of.

"18th December, 1819. Resolved that the Directors of this Establishment do not consider themselves obligated to pay the reward of fifty guineas offered for the apprehension of Mr. Armson."

I can find no entry of any such reward having been ordered to be offered by the Directors.

The only other entry I can find in the Incorporation books in which Armson's name appears, or having any reference to him, is on the debit side of the Treasurer's book, in which is the following entry:—

"1820. John Pidgeon 2nd and 3rd Instalments of a £100 refunded by Armson and paid into the hands of the Treasurer by Mr. Temple.. £20 0 0."

I cannot, however, find any entry of payment of the first instalment.

W.I.B.

CURRENT NOTES.

About twenty-five years ago the *Merthyr Guardian* published in its columns a series of pedigrees of Glamorgan-shire families. Mr G. T. Clark, F.S.A., has now collected, collated, and printed these genealogies "of the Older Families of Morgan and Glamorgan." The accounts of the Herbert family alone occupy over fifty pages.

A deputation from the Gaelic Society of London waited on Friday upon Mr Trevelyan, Secretary for Scotland, on the subject of the teaching of Gaelic in the schools of that country. In urging that Gaelic should be more generally taught in the Highlands they made a number of suggestions, which Mr Trevelyan promised carefully to consider.

A correspondent of a contemporary writes:—"I saw a few days ago what to ornithologists would be a most interesting sight. I happened to be at Dolgelley Station on that morning, and while waiting there a few minutes saw a throistle hop along to the station-master's office-door, which was closed, and knock for his morning's meal. He turned away for a few moments, and then returned to repeat the operation. This was an old custom with the throistle as with many of his companions of the feathered tribe; for the station-master has long been in the habit of throwing crumbs to them, with the result of training them, so that they actually hop into his office and partake of their daily meal within; and this is not confined to throistles alone, but goldfinches, chaffinches, and sparrows, who amply repay him for his generous bounty by their chorus of sweet warblings, the live-long day. But on Sundays the jack-daws, apparently cognisant of the fact that there is no traffic, assemble in hundreds, literally covering the station platform, and amuse themselves between chattering and helping themselves to what they may find, including the grease used about the points and railway chairs. No doubt these feathered songsters regard the locality very favourably on account of the fact that Dolgelley, sheltered as it is from the biting east wind, affords them a most comfortable retreat throughout the winter."

In the *Cardiff Mail*, "Morien" is writing a series of articles in which he strings together "Recollections of Mr H. M. Stanley" gathered during a recent sojourn in the neighbourhood of Denbigh Castle, among whose gigantic ruins "the small, sturdy Cymric lad" had roamed. Thirty-eight years ago, "John Bach" was carried on his back by a relative in whose care he had been left, from Denbigh Castle to St. Asaph Workhouse, and "Morien" treats the transference of Stanley to the Workhouse as a dispensation of Providence, for "otherwise he would have remained uneducated and would have been to-day very differently circumstanced to what he is." The relative who carried "John Bach" to the Workhouse said of him, "He was a very sharp child, and we missed him at home uncommon." He escaped from the Workhouse, and another relative (who says he was then a nice-looking boy, but stern in manner) took him for a day, and ultimately, in consequence of reports from an old schoolmaster as to "the extraordinary talents of Betsy's little son," he was removed from the Workhouse and placed upon a farm as a shepherd. Stanley's alleged failure to sufficiently recognize his relatives, when he first won fame, is now excused by his people on the score of the loyalty which was due from him to the *New York Herald*, which had spent £12,000 on what it desired to be regarded as an American expedition. The funeral of Mrs Jones, the mother of Mr H. M. Stanley, took place at Bodolwyddan Churchyard on Saturday, the Rev. W. H. Williams, M.A., officiating. The deceased resided with her husband (Mr

Stanley's stepfather), at the Cross Foxes Inn, near the seat of the Lord-Lieutenant of Flintshire. There she was often visited by those interested in the explorer, who were allowed to examine the curiosities he had sent her from time to time, collected on his foreign travel.

THE SOCIETY FOR UTILIZING THE WELSH LANGUAGE.

A meeting of the Council of this Society was held at Shrewsbury, on Friday last, the Venerable Archdeacon Griffiths presiding. There were present Dr. Isambard Owen, Mr T. Marchant Williams and Mr W. E. Davies, of London, Principal Viriamu Jones, Registrar Ivor James, Professor Roberts, and Mr E. Thomas (Cochfarf) of Cardiff, the Rev. Aaron Davies, Chairman Gelligaer School Board, Principal Gethin Davies, Llangollen, Mr W. Cadwaladr Davies, Bangor, and the Secretary, Mr Beriah Gwynne Evans. Letters and telegrams, bearing upon the movement, and explaining unavoidable absence, were read from Principal Reichel, Bangor, Mr Gee, Denbigh, the Rev. T. Levi, Aberystwyth, and others. These having been considered, the reports of the various Sub-Committees were considered. The following gentlemen were unanimously appointed additional members of the Council:—Mr D. Bowen, Abercarne, the Rev. Griffith Ellis, Liverpool, Mr W. Evans (Official Receiver), Chester, Mr R. Iwan Jenkyn, F.R.H.S., Haslingden, Major Jones, American Consul, Cardiff, the Rev. Thomas Levi, Aberystwyth, Rev. W. Morris (Rhosynog), Treorky, Mr E. Thomas (Cochfarf), Cardiff, the Rev. H. Elwyn Thomas, Cardiff, and Mr Owen Williams, President of the South Carnarvonshire Teachers' Association, Nevyn. The Finance Committee's Report was encouraging, and adopted in its entirety. Steps were taken to open a banking account in the name of the Society, and the National Provincial Bank of England were appointed bankers. The report of the Committee on the extension of the movement was very satisfactory, and the Council expressed great gratification at the numerous signs already afforded of the firm hold the movement is rapidly securing on public feeling and favour in Wales. The proposed Text Books were approved, and it was resolved to issue immediately a Commission for their preparation without delay. The greater part of the sitting was occupied in considering a memorial to be presented on behalf of the Society to the Royal Commission now sitting on Elementary Education, and of schedules of definite schemes of instruction. The final arrangements for the presentation of the memorial were left to Archdeacon Griffiths, Mr T. Marchant Williams, and the Secretary.

It was decided to hold the half-yearly meeting of members of the Society at Cardiff, in April.

NOTES ON BIRDS.

Thursday, March 25th, saw the arrival here of the first of our summer migrants—the chaff-chaff, exactly six days earlier than last year. Now the reason for its early appearance seems to me to be two-fold—first, unusually warm weather; and, secondly, a south wind. Birds will often wait a length of time until they get the right slant of wind to cross, and those that come on board vessels in a state of exhaustion have either been unsighted by thick weather, or the wind has suddenly changed, and they are unable to fly against it. My own impression is that birds trust to their sight almost entirely, and before crossing to England from the Continent they get up to a good height, and have a sight of land. Those birds that cross from Norway, such as fieldfares, redwings, &c., come down past Denmark, and cross by Heligoland, while those from Ireland, such as Dunlins, golden plovers, purple sand-

pipers, whimbrels, and the duck tribe, must get a glimpse of the Ferroses, and have a north wind before attempting to cross. If you have ever watched a carrier pigeon starting for a long flight, you will notice how he ascends in circles until almost lost to sight, and then, having got his bearings, starts off in a straight line. And with respect to vultures, though some have thought that they work by smell and not by sight, I think the following will show that it is to sight alone that they trust. A friend of mine who had done a great deal of shooting in hot countries told me that if he covered the animal he had shot with branches it was pretty certain to remain untouched by vultures, while if left uncovered not a vestige of it remained in a very few hours, and it was marvellous to watch the first vulture appearing in the sky, seemingly not bigger than a pin's point, to be followed by hundreds of his fellows. Birds, besides their wonderful powers of vision, have memory powerfully developed, and will return again and again to the same place for the purpose of breeding, and even if the old birds be killed their young will nest close to the old place. A Scotch keeper, whose word I can rely on, told me that his master left three grouse out of a brood of eight. The next year a pair bred within two yards of the old nest, and so on for three seasons. Every year the nest was placed not more than 13 yards from the first nest he had noticed. The chaff-chaff I mentioned at the beginning has been heard by me every year for many years back, exactly in the same spot, and I well remember as a boy taking the nest three times one year, and those nests not more than five yards from the same place. Several birds, such as the swan and the eagle, will not allow their young to remain in the same vicinity as themselves, the reason being that these birds require such a vast amount of food that like the herdsmen of Lot the land is not sufficient to bear them.

TANTARA.

The Late Mr. Charles Hughes of Wrexham.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr Charles Hughes, of Brynhyfryd, Wrexham, principal in the well-known Welsh publishing house of Hughes and Son. Mr Hughes was a man of robust frame, but he had suffered from delicate health since October last, in which month he consulted a London physician. He underwent an operation, and subsequently went to the Rhyl Hydropathic Establishment, where he, to some extent, recovered strength. He returned to Wrexham, and resumed a life of modified activity; three weeks before his death he contracted a cold which developed into bronchopneumonia, but no serious issue was apprehended until the Saturday, when Dr. Eytton Jones considered it necessary to call in Dr. Waters of Chester. Consultations were also held on Monday and Tuesday, March 22nd and 23rd, but Mr Hughes gradually sank, and expired at half-past five on Wednesday morning. The news of Mr Hughes's death, which was not generally anticipated, caused the sincerest regret, and the deepest sympathy with the family was universally felt. Mr Hughes was a man of wide sympathies, of the most sterling character, of the highest rectitude, and of unfailing courtesy, and his death will leave gaps in the social and public life of Wrexham which will not soon be filled.

Mr Hughes was the son of the late Mr Richard Hughes, founder of the firm of Hughes and Son. Born March 3, 1823, Mr Charles Hughes was educated at the Fairfield Academy, conducted by his uncle, afterwards well known as the Rev. John Hughes of Liverpool, and subsequently at the Bridgnorth Grammar School. Leaving school he proceeded to London, where he entered the service of the well-known publishers, Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, and

Co., and there he acquired much of the experience which enabled him to extend the business established by his father. Returning to Wrexham he joined his father in business, and took a prominent part in the religious life of the town. In conjunction with Mr W. H. Darby and the Messrs Rawlins, he became an earnest advocate of temperance; he was distinguished as an advocate of peace, and was selected as a delegate to attend an international peace conference, held at Frankfurt-on-the-Main in 1848, and later he, together with Mr Darby, promoted a meeting held in what is now the Public Hall, at which the speakers were the late Mr Cobden, Mr Sturge, and Mr Henry Richard, M.P. In 1853 Mr Hughes married Miss Lewis, sister of the late Mr Enoch Lewis, of Mostyn, and they had issue two sons and five daughters—Mr Charles Tudor Hughes and Mr Albert Llewelyn Hughes; his eldest daughter is married to Mr W. Evans, of Chester; the other daughters are: Miss Hughes, Miss Florence Hughes, Miss Ada Hughes, and Miss Eva Gladys Hughes. Mrs Hughes died in 1867. Following the example of his father, Mr Hughes was a member of the Welsh Presbyterian Church, which, when he joined it, met in Abbot-street, and he was active in visiting the chapels in the district, and in the work of the Sunday School. About the year 1849 an English Presbyterian Church was established in Wrexham, and it was placed in Mr Hughes's charge. For some years the Church assembled in a small room in Bank-street, but Mr Hughes did not rest until a more suitable building was erected in Hill-street, a building which was opened in 1857. The life long interest which he took in the Church was marked in 1884, when his sixty-first birthday was celebrated by the presentation to him of an illuminated address in the form of an album, and in acknowledging it he mentioned that the interests of the Church with whose growth he was so closely identified were always nearest his heart, and that in promoting them he found his greatest pleasures. The prominence of the position he took in Welsh Presbyterianism was shown by his election as a member of the Committee of Bala College, as Moderator on more than one occasion of the Presbytery of Lancashire, Cheshire, and Flintshire, and as representative of the Presbytery upon the Synodical Committees. He was a warm advocate of popular education, and as such he was manager, at one time secretary, and at the time of his death chairman of the British Schools; on the establishment of a School Board in Wrexham he was elected a member, and from the date of its formation until January last, when he retired rather than undergo a contest, he filled the office of Chairman of the Board. Mr Hughes took a most active interest in the promotion of Intermediate Education in Wales, and gave evidence on the subject before the Royal Commission; he was equally active in the promotion of the success of the newly-established College at Bangor, and he was elected by the Corporation of Wrexham to represent it on the Governing Body. He was a trustee and promoter of the Working Men's Hall, and when the constitution of the Ruabon Grammar School was reorganized he was appointed a Governor. He was one of the first members of the Wrexham Town Council, and, appointed a borough magistrate in 1864, he was Chairman of the Bench, until, a few years ago, he was appointed a county magistrate. In politics Mr Hughes was a staunch Liberal, and from its formation he was President of the Wrexham Liberal Association. Mr Hughes was a director of the Provincial Insurance Company, the Alliance Assurance Company, and the Wrexham, Mold, and Connah's Quay Railway Company. Early in life he was Local Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, his interest in the Sunday School was kept

up to the last, and his latest piece of work was to prepare the lesson which his class was to take. As publishers of Welsh literature and especially of Welsh music, the firm of which he was the head has long been to the fore.

The remains were interred in the new cemetery, Ruabon Road, on Friday. In response to a request issued by the Mayor, all the shops in the town were partially closed and the blinds of private houses were drawn. Marks of the high esteem in which the deceased gentleman was held were manifest on all hands, and amongst those who followed the remains were a very large number of the tradesmen of Wrexham and of members of the Presbytery.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

WALES DURING THE TUDOR PERIOD.

On Thursday, the 18th March, Mr J. Roland Phillips, Police Magistrate of the West Ham District, and author of a valuable work on "The Civil War in Wales and the Marches" opened the Lecture Session of the Cymmrodorion Society with a paper on "Wales during the Tudor Period." The chair was occupied by Dr. Isambard Owen, M.A., who introduced Mr Roland Phillips to the meeting as one of the few Welshmen who had given to the history of their native country the serious attention it deserved and demanded. Mr Phillips then proceeded with his paper, of which the following is a resumé:—

Probably the darkest period in the history of Wales is that which immediately followed the final overthrow of Owain Glyndwr. The last struggle for independence, goaded on and induced by oppression of the harshest kind, although carried on with much bravery and great skill had completely failed—the Welsh spirit was broken, the English power was triumphant. Wales was completely conquered, and the brave leader of the insurrection had died an outcast in obscurity. Not even when the noble head of Llewelyn was placed on a spike on the White Tower did the prospect look more hopeless. What made it worse was that a policy of oppression was adopted in mere revenge for the trouble which Glyndwr's insurrection had caused. Statutes were passed, compared with which the Coercion Acts applied during this century to Ireland were mildness itself. Suits between Welshmen and Englishmen were to be tried only by English Judges with the aid of English Juries. No child of Welsh parents could be apprenticed to any trade in any city or town within the kingdom. Welshmen were made incapable of buying land or houses in or near to any of the cities or towns in the Marches under pains of forfeiture. Welshmen were disqualified from being citizens or burgesses in any corporate town. They could hold no office of any public nature whatsoever, and they were taxed whilst the English amongst them escaped all burdens. Public meetings were declared unlawful, and could only be held when licensed by English authority. Even the assemblings of the bards were prohibited. An old custom—of a most useful and neighbourly character—prevailed in Wales, called *cymmorthau*, when the residents of a whole district would turn out to render help in harvests or other agricultural occasions to one who needed such assistance. Doubtless those meetings in those troublous days had been productive of fanning the insurrection, so an Act was passed to make *cymmorthau* illegal. Even marriages between Englishmen and Welshwomen were looked upon with disfavour, and if a Welshman had the audacity to make love to an Englishwoman—which they generally did successfully—the Welshman forfeited all his goods if he married an Englishwoman in an English town. This Lewis Glyn Cothi found to

his great cost when he forgot himself and married a Chester woman. The Mayor of the city found him out and ordered the balliffs to seize his goods, and poor Lewis lost his household goods and also his wife. He seems to regret the former more than the latter.

Mynasnt fy nâ mewn naw-sach,

he grievously complains; but not a word about his wife. Lewis had to flee the town. He shook its dust off his feet, and poured forth his curses upon the city in language burning with just wrath,

*Y dwr a'u boddo tra vo trev iach,
Y tan a'u llosgo, peten' llesgach;
Yr awel a'u gwnel gan niwlach gwinau,
Ond yr eglwysau, yn dir glasach,*

and for the people thereof,

*Mynwn pe'u gwelwn hwy'n gulach o dda,
Yn moel y Wyddfa yn ymleddvach.*

In his rage he asks Dafydd ab Gutyn o Groesoswallt (Oswestry) to lend him a sword to slay the men of Caerlleon Gawr. Well may old Powell the historian say that Wales had been "afflicted by laws more heathenish than Christian." The condition of the country must have been terrible, but amidst the darkness came a ray of hope for better things. A Welsh gentleman from Anglesey married the widow of the King of England. The issue of the marriage was Edmund Tudor, Earl of Richmond, and Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke. Margaret, wife of the Earl of Richmond, whilst staying with her brother-in-law Jasper at Pembroke Castle, gave birth to a boy, who was destined to play a considerable part in after events, as Henry Tudor, who afterwards ascended the English throne as Henry VII. From his infancy Henry was surrounded by Welsh attendants, and his Celtic blood very soon manifested itself in his nature. When Richard III. ascended the throne, days of danger and trouble arrived for Henry and his mother, who were lodged at Pembroke Castle. The Castle was assailed by a party of Yorkists, led by a brother of Sir Rhys ap Thomas, and it was only by the ingenuity of another brother of the same individual that Henry and his mother were enabled to escape from being taken. They sought refuge in Tenby Castle, whence they took boat for Brittany. With them went many a faithful sturdy Welshman, who held firm to them during their darkest days of exile. Rapidly sketching the events which brought Henry back from France to the fight on the field of Bosworth, Mr Phillips went on to state that without any boasting Welshmen might safely say that the momentous issue then decided, which was destined to alter the entire condition of the country, and which placed on the throne the most powerful dynasty that ever reigned in England, was won by Welsh arms and Welsh valour. It was a great matter for Wales that at last a Welsh prince should sit on the throne. It was a greater matter still that this prince should owe his position solely to his countrymen. But greatest of all was it a matter of congratulation that the Earl of Richmond was Welsh to the backbone in his nature and in his sentiments. Quoting from Mr Hepworth Dixon's "Lives of Two Queens," Mr Phillips went on to say that "the bards and monks who had been near him from his birth had fired him with two mystic yearnings; yearnings which became a part of him and helped to govern him through life; a passion for the legends of his native land as sung by Cymric bards, a passion for the Cross of Christ as monks and friars conceived the Cross of Christ." [The whole passage from which the foregoing is taken is well worth reading.] This was the man who had been placed on the throne. And with the sole exception of his rather parsimonious character, a nobler-minded sovereign has not been crowned King of England. It has

been frequently said that Henry was ungrateful on the throne to his countrymen. This is entirely a mistake, unless the Welsh are to have the character of the daughter of the horse-leech, who cried "Give, give," and was never satisfied. Henry, in truth, was overwhelmingly grateful. Even the Hirlas Horn at Golden Grove proves that favours conferred were not forgotten. But there is a long list of offices and dignities conferred upon Welshmen, not merely appointments in Wales, but throughout England, which fully prove that no service rendered to the King either on the march to Bosworth or in the dark days of his adversity went unrequited if its remembrance were brought home to him. [Mr Phillips here read a number of these in support of his statement.] It has been already mentioned how deeply tinged with the Arthurian Romance was the King. When Elizabeth gave him a boy it was little wonder to find that he was named Arthur. Two Welshmen stood sponsors at his baptism. "The King so arranged his cradle that when his eyes should open to receive the images of outward things, the objects to salute him first should be the mystic dragon and the sacred leek. The King had fixed his heart on the revival of the ancient names and the ancient ways. A second Arthur should renew the first and live a perfect hero in a court of perfect knights and dames. This hero had to be consecrated from his cradle, and in after years he should be sent to live among his ancient kith." Ludlow had long been fixed in Henry's mind as the second Camelot, and when at the age of 15 Arthur was married to Catherine of Aragon, Ludlow Castle was fixed for their residence. There Arthur was surrounded by Welsh officials, and matters promised well. But the early death of the young prince shattered all Henry's schemes and proved a terrible blow to the prince's Welsh friends. It is a curious fact that the harsh laws passed after the rebellion of Glyndwr were not repealed in this reign. They had of course fallen into disuse and were not enforced, but no attempt appears to have been made to erase them from the rolls of the Statutes. The sole reason for this in Mr Phillips's opinion arose from the fact that Wales was not yet united on equal terms with England. In the English Parliament no knights or burgesses from Wales were permitted, and no attempt appears to have been made to deal with Wales in this respect on a footing different from that of a conquered dependency. The education which the employment of Welshmen on so large a scale in public appointments and offices during the reign of Henry VII. had effected was, however, soon calculated to lead to demand for equal laws and equal privileges. After the death of Henry VII., this began to be discussed. But, unfortunately, an incident occurred which nearly thwarted the efforts of those who were crying for reform. The grandson of Sir Rhys ap Thomas disputed the authority of Walter Devereux, who had been placed by Henry at the head of affairs at Carmarthen, and at the Sessions held in June, 1529, a serious outbreak took place.—[Ferrers' report of it was here read by Mr Phillips.]—Rhys ap Gruffydd was afterwards forgiven, but two years later on a mere pretence he was taken prisoner, charged with treason, and beheaded. This was an outrageous act, and caused no little disaffection in the South West of Wales. Another curious incident of this period was the appearance in Scotland of one James ap Griffith ap Powell, who went to Scotland pretending to have great power in Wales, and offering with the aid of 10,000 Scotch to conquer England. Who he was and what was his grievance Mr Phillips had not been able to ascertain. These things frightened those in authority, and in 1533 repressive measures were contemplated much in the same way as we have seen in Ireland. Coercion, however, was

not resorted to; in fact, force was found to be no remedy, and soon after a better feeling prevailed. The dark days were now drawing to a close, and instead of repression, instead of dealing harshly with the country, it was resolved to do that which Henry all along intended, viz., to weld into a thorough harmonious union England and Wales. How this was effected is fully related in the first and second chapters of Mr Phillips's work on the Civil War, to which I refer the reader.—Dr. Owen, in opening the discussion on the paper, remarked that Mr Phillips had thrown new light on the character of Henry VII., both as to the ideas which swayed him and as to his treatment of his Welsh supporters. He trusted Mr Phillips would be encouraged to continue and complete his researches into the history of our country during the period in question. A clearer understanding of the past would give us help and guidance in the present. Welshmen now gather their ideas of the history and position of their country from the elementary histories compiled by English writers, who generally deal with Welsh history in the most shadowy and misleading manner. Proceeding, Dr Owen drew a curious parallel between the conquest of England and that of Wales. From the death of Llewelyn to the battle of Bosworth, Wales occupied exactly a similar position to that held by England in previous centuries. Both countries regained their liberties much in the same way, the English by supporting Henry I., the Welsh by supporting Henry VII. On the field of Bosworth for the last time in battle was unfurled the banner of the Red Dragon, and it was unfurled on the victorious side. Taken thence by Henry it was placed side by side with the Royal Standard of England on the high altar at Westminster, a symbol that Wales had won back her liberties. Wales, it was true, was subjected to severer measures than England was by the Normans, but that was to be regarded in a complimentary light. In the present day he strongly objected on historical grounds that the Welsh should in any way be considered as inferior to the Scotch, Irish, or English, and that any measure designed to place them on a footing of equality should be extended to them merely as a matter of favour and not of right. In conclusion he drew attention to the educational position of Wales in former periods, and its subsequent decadence, drawing the moral that it behoved us of the present generation to re-establish a complete system of education for Wales as soon as possible.—Mr Howel W. Lloyd suggested that Lewis Glyn Cothi was not quite so black as he was painted, for he might have had his wife with him when complaining only of the loss of his goods. Referring to the result of the Reformation, Mr Lloyd spoke strongly of the way in which Wales was neglected by the clergy of the Established Church, a neglect which only in very recent years they have made any effort to repair.—Mr T. Edwards Price of Welshpool inquired of the lecturer as to the social state of the country during the Tudor period, and mentioned that no houses of the smaller gentry of the period were now traceable with one or two exceptions, such as the Earl of Leicester's hunting lodge in the lordship of Cyfeiliog, and one or two others.—Mrs Dr Bryant gave as a reason for the stubborn resistance made by the Welsh to their conquerors the statement that the Saxon of the third generation forgets what has taken place in the first, while the Celt never forgets. She also mentioned the striking resemblance between the reports of the Tudor officials in Wales and the reports of English officials in Ireland at the present day. With regard to the one and the other she had come to the conclusion that what an official said was hardly worth considering.—Mr Phillips, in acknowledging the vote of thanks accorded to him, re-

plying to Mr Howel Lloyd that no mention is made by Lewis Glyn Cothi of his wife, after leaving Chester, said that the probability was that she got left behind. He dwelt at some length on the architectural question raised by Mr Price, and suggested that the subject should be treated at a future meeting.—A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

CYMRU FU.

It happened that Mr Rowland Lloyd of Rhiwaedog, near Bala, and Captain Rowland Vaughan of Caergai were at an evening party with Sir Owen Salisbury of Rûg. After leaving Rûg under the influence of Bacchus, who

Drinking joys did first ordain,

Lloyd and Vaughan quarreled, and fought on the road. The next morning the Squire of Caergai sent the following lines to Rhiwaedog, which were the means of bringing the furious combatants to their senses:—

Gwin a saig Syr Owen Salisbri,
A waeth gynnwr ar Gareini,
Rhng Rowland Lloyd, pendefg mwynlan,
A'r hen gecryn Rowland Fychan—*Gwylledydd, 1824.*

Sir Thomas Middleton of Chirk Castle printed the Bible in Welsh at his own expense in a small volume for the benefit of the common people, although it was published before in a large volume for the use of the churches. "I wish God from my very heart for every spiritual and bodily blessing to descend from heaven on every one of the offspring of Sir Thomas Middleton in Wales, and everywhere else. May the Almighty give innumerable blessings like the sands of the sea, like the grass of the fields, and like the stars of heaven, and may every one in North Wales that loves God say Amen and Amen, so let it be. O merciful God, bless the offspring of Sir Thomas Middleton, and may his name be respected for ever."—

Preface to the Welshman's Candle for 1672.

Many years ago lived a cowman at Glasgoed, Llansilin, named Thomas Llwyd, who was in the habit of leaving his beard to grow; his appearance was dirty, and he was very disagreeable in his ways. The servant boys in the neighbourhood used to plague and torment him frequently. Thomas Morris, the local poet, of Pentregwyn, sent the following pithy lines, advising Llwyd to shave his beard oftener:—

Thomas Llwyd dirion, hyd atoch 'rwy'n anfon,
Mi draetha'r achosion yn gyson ar gân,—
Fich barf, os gwnewch gofio, pan welwch hi'n prifio,
Yn amlach ei heillio o hyn allan.

Mae'r holl wartheg hesbion,
Yn crynu rhag ofon—mae digon o dyst;
Oni chym'rwbeth beth trwbwl i'w thori'n fwy manwl,
Erthylu wna'r cwbl, myn cebyst.—*Gwinen, Jan. 1835.*

There was a mill between Llanrhaidar and Llangedwyn, which was worked by water from the Barog. There is an image of a man's face in the wall near the fire place in the old building. Tradition says that it is the image of one of the servants of the mill in the olden time, and the following lines were composed for him:—

Cofia dithau, Sierlyn,
Bydd fachgen diwyd, da;
Gofala am ddwr i'r felin,
Ar rew ac amser ha';
A thendia ar modryb Marged,
Cei beced am by boen,
A phâr o 'sgidiau newydd,
A het a fiedog groen.—*Ibid, Sep. 1834.*

Myllin, a genuine young poet of Llanfyllin, whilst far from home, being asked by a friend how business was going on at Llanfyllin, gave the following impromptu answer,

which is a description of the state of trade, perhaps, suitable for the present time :—

Ochain a gerain garw—a morol,
Am arian sydd acw,
Drwy'r wlad, a bagad mewn bw,
O'u hachos ar roi Hwchwl!
Y cywir lethir ar lawr—yn ddilys;
A'r cri'b-d llellwr bolfawr
O draserch at ei drysawr,
Lwngc eiddil, fei morfil mawr.
A rhaid i'r gweiniaid dan gwyno—i gyd
Ddal y goes i'w blingo;
I bob cidwm, mae'n drwm dro,
Ag arian—ni wiw gwyro.—*Gwyllydydd, 1823.*

Llwyn Dadwydd. LLYWARCH HEN.

APRIL 7, 1886.

NOTES.

GOBOWEN.—Some years ago there was a discussion in *Bye-Gones* as to the etymology of this word. I notice that in a Turnpike Act passed in 1820 it is spelt thus: the Road "at the Goe Bowen through Whittington over Baby's Wood." CROESWYLAN.

LEGEND OF LLANSANTFFRAID GLYN DYFRDWY CHURCH.—In *Bye-Gones* for 1872 there are two notices of the legend which heads this communication, the first by BONWM, and the second by D.R.T. The first mentions a still current tradition that the Dee swept away in times gone by the old Church of Llan-santffraid, together with the Blessed Books and the Silver Cup, which were never recovered. BONWM found a Welsh verse commemorative of the event which he committed to writing. The lines are:—

Dyfrdwy fawr ei naid
Aeth ag Eglwys Llansantffraid,
Y Llyfran Bendigedig,
A'r Cwpan Arian hefyd.

These words tell us that the Dee carried away Llan-santffraid Church, the Blessed Books, and also the Silver Cup, in one of her great leaps, a poetical term for a flood, in which the course of the river was changed.

D.R.T. in *Bye-Gones*, 1872, p. 49, writes:—From a MS. account of Llansantffraid Church, dated Feb. 20, 1729-30, and now before me . . . the legend is not so very old—

The Church that *now* is has not been built many years, and was placed on this eminence (above the river Dee) as likely to be here secure from the fate of the former church. The old church stood on a level with the river, and one night swam along towards Chester. It spared not the churchyard but consumed and quite *eat it up*. The same ungodly and impious river pursues the Church even hither, and *undermines the wall of the churchyard apace*. Were the pulpit not sacred, it would be no matter of grief if it, and the *living*, were washed and made to swim.

On the 18th of this month (March) the writer visited Llansantffraid, and found that the tradition of the church having been swept away by the Dee was still green, and, what was of more consequence, the site of the *last* church engulfed was pointed out, but it stood in the bed of the river not far from the bottom of the garden belonging to the vicarage. But with *this* church also disappeared the vicarage. In the field opposite the

present vicarage are to be seen two aged apple trees, which tradition says belonged to the orchard or garden of the old vicarage, and at the further extremity of the field still stands the old tithe barn, now converted into cowhouse, &c. The old vicarage stood close by this barn, but in the bed of the river as it now runs, and the church stood between the old vicarage and the present vicarage garden. The Vicar, the Rev. Rees Jones, told me that often and again the workmen had turned up human bones when trenching the garden, and he says that formerly the churchyard was where his garden is.

It would appear from the quotation given by D.R.T. that previously to 1729 the church had been swept away and that in that year the river was *undermining the wall of the churchyard apace*. The river certainly has never undermined the present churchyard wall, nor has it ever been within several score yards of the present churchyard. Therefore the churchyard wall that was being undermined *apace* must have been that which at that time surrounded the churchyard, a part of the churchyard being at present the vicarage garden. Most probably the church was twice carried away, and after the second disaster it was removed to its present position, on a high bank out of reach of the river. But the Dee is directing its course even towards this church, and unless means are taken to divert its course, this church, though apparently beyond danger, may also in time disappear.

In corroboration of the church books having been lost, I may state that I found no *old* book, register, nor terrier of any kind in the church chest—they were all modern books. E.O.

ANCIENT FUNERALS.—THE FUNERAL OF A WELSH GENTLEMAN IN 1667.—*Harl. MS., No. 2,129*, is a large folio volume ascribed to Randle Holme, the third of Chester. It is described in the Harleian Catalogue as a collection of "Funeral Orders and Church Monuments, &c.," but this does the volume scant justice, as it also contains papers on various other subjects, many of them of interest to readers of *Bye-Gones*. It would occupy several columns of your journal to give a mere summary of the contents of the different papers in the volume.

Though ascribed, and doubtless correctly, to Randle Holme, yet there are many additions by other hands in it, particularly by the insertion, on the original leaves, of papers. As regards "Church Monuments," there are pen and ink drawings of numerous monuments in churches in the counties of Flint, Denbigh, Carnarvon, and (writing from memory) other Welsh counties, as also from churches in Cheshire, Shropshire, and several adjacent English counties. The inscriptions on the monuments are also given; in addition there are inscriptions on gravestones, both in churches and graveyards. It is more than probable that some of the tombstones in the graveyards, the inscriptions of which are preserved in the MS., have disappeared ere this. There are also pen and ink sketches of Coats of Arms on the walls and in the windows of churches depicted in the volume, but probably the most interesting portion of the contents of the MS., at the present time is the "Funeral Orders"; a copy of one I append, with others to follow. There are many more relating to the funeral of eminent persons

in the Welsh as well as other counties mentioned above, some of them of a very elaborate character. A selection from these would give a graphic illustration of the manner in which the funerals of the upper classes in these districts were performed in the 16th and 17th centuries, as well as the cost; as at foot of many of the "Orders" the sum is stated. In other instances the sums paid to individuals for services rendered, for use of horses and various other items of expenditure, are duly recorded, as well as minute instructions to the undertaker's men as to what they are to do and not to do in connection with the funerals. The "Order" which I append is one of, if not the simplest and least ostentatious in the volume.

"The order of the funeral of Roger Puleston of Emrall,

Esqr. ob: (who died) 13 July, 1667.

31 poore men in coats and caps (1) 2 & 2

Geo Johnson

Roger Dutton

Morris Lewis

Willm Cowper

Gabriel Humphreys i penon

Randle Morgan the led horse

John Roberts his owne waring rapier

Willm Jones his spurs

Henry Owen 2 penon

Jo Jackson the motto

Mr Preston the 3 penon

Edward Hammer the helmett & crest

John Evans the coate

The Minister

The Corps

Sr Roger Moston and Mr Salisbury of Rege

Mr Phillips and Mr Roydon"

PEARMAN.

QUERIES.

NONCONFORMITY IN WELSHPOOL.—I have in my possession the following document:—

To the Right Revd. Father in God, Jonathan, Lord Bishop of St. Asaph.

We whose names are hereunto subscribed, being Protestant Dissenters called Presbyterians, do hereby certify to your Lordship that a New erected Chapel in the Town of Welshpool in the above Diocese is Intended to be a place of meeting for religious Worship. Therefore we require that this our Certificate may be recorded at your Court according to an Act of Parliament in that case made and provided in the Reign of King William and Queen Mary (called the Toleration Act).

July the 11 1783 signed by us

John James Minister

Bonner Hughes

Heth Hughes

Edward Morris

Edward Hughes

Joseph Jones

Entered and recorded among the Archives in the public Episcopal Registry of Saint Asaph pursuant to an Act of Parliament in this case made and provided the 30th of July 1783 by

John Jones Dep. Regr.

Where was the "new erected chapel" referred to?

POOL.

REPLIES.

THE MOUNTAIN ASH AS A CHARM (Mar. 17, 1886).—On p. 279 of vol. 1 of John's "Forest Trees of Great Britain," Lightfoot is quoted to the following effect:—

It [the mountain ash] may to this day be observed to grow more frequently than any other tree in the neighbourhood of those Druidical circles of stones so often seen in the north of Britain; and the superstitious still continue to retain a great veneration for it, which was undoubtedly handed down to them from early antiquity. They believe that any small part of this tree carried about them will prove a sovereign charm against all the dire effects of enchantment and witchcraft. Their cattle, also, as well as themselves, are supposed to be preserved by it from evil; for the dairy-maid will not forget to drive them from the shealings, or summer pastures, with a rod of the Rowan-tree, which she carefully lays up over the door of the sheal-booth or summer house, and drives them home again with the same.

Gilpin is also quoted as stating that the Druids used to plant the Mountain Ash in their burying-grounds; and, to quote Evelyn, it would seem that the custom obtained long after the introduction of Christianity:—

In Wales, where this tree is reputed so sacred, there is not a churchyard without one of them planted in it, so, on a certain day in the year, everybody religiously wears a cross made of the wood.

Farrer, "Primitive Manners and Customs" (p. 290) and King, in his essay on "Sacred Trees and Flowers," both contend that these crosses were carried as a protection from evil spirits. The Rev. Hilderic Friend, in his "Flowers and Flower Lore," (1884), p. 554, gives the following Yorkshire anecdote, narrated to the Rev. J. C. Atkinson:—

A woman was lately in my shop, and in pulling out her purse brought out also a piece of stick a few inches long. I asked her why she carried that in her pocket. "Oh," she replied, "I must not lose that or I shall be done for." "Why so?" I inquired. "Well," she answered, "I carry that to keep off the witches; while I have that about me they cannot hurt me." On my observing that I thought there were no witches now-a-days, she observed quickly, "Oh, yes! There are thirteen at this very time in the town; but so long as I have my Rowan-tree safe in my pocket they cannot hurt me."

This good dame evidently placed implicit faith in the old couplets:—

Rowan tree and red thread

Put the witches to their speed.

If your whip-stick's made of Row'n

You may ride your nag through any town.

and

Woe to the lad

Without a Rowan-tree gad!

Oswestry.

VERAN.

CURRENT NOTES.

On Thursday, March 25, the Rev. Thomas Bucknall Lloyd, vicar of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, was instituted in Lichfield Cathedral as Archdeacon of Salop, in the place of the Venerable Archdeacon Allen, resigned.

During some alterations at the parish church of Llan-gattock, near Crickhowell, a singular discovery was made. The rector wished the space between the floor and the

(1) I think this means "Capes."

ceiling increased, and in lowering the floor the excavators came across the remains of 190 dead bodies, on some of which the hair and other features were still preserved.

The death is announced at Cardiff of an old army pensioner, named Henry Russel. He served in the 20th Regiment of foot throughout the Peninsular War, that regiment taking part in seven memorable engagements, including Vittoria, Salamanca, Pampeluna, &c. He formed one of the escort which accompanied Napoleon to St. Helena in H.M.S. *Bellerophon*. He was 97 years old, and for 60 years has been totally blind.

The Late Lord Penrhyn.

Lord Penrhyn died on Wednesday, March 31, at Penrhyn Castle, Bangor, after an illness of only three days' duration. The Right Hon. Edward Gordon Douglas-Pennant, Baron Penrhyn, of Llandegai, Carnarvonshire, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, was the last surviving son of the late Hon. John Douglas, and grandson of James, 14th Earl of Morton. His mother was Lady Frances Lascelles, eldest daughter of Edward, first Earl of Harewood, and he was born on the 20th of June, 1800. In 1815 he entered the Army as Lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards, retiring in 1847. In 1858 he was appointed honorary Colonel of the Royal Carnarvon Militia (now the 4th Battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers), and in 1866 was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Carnarvonshire. At the general election, in 1841, he was returned opposed to the House of Commons, in the Conservative interest, as member for Carnarvonshire, and retained his seat for that constituency until his elevation to the Peerage in 1866. Lord Penrhyn, who was a magistrate for Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire, had been twice married—first, in 1833, to Juliana Isabella Mary, daughter and co-heiress of the late Mr George Hay Dawkins Pennant, of Penrhyn Castle, whose name of Pennant he assumed by Royal licence; she died in 1842; and he married, secondly, in 1846, Lady Maria Louisa FitzRoy, second daughter of Henry, fifth Duke of Grafton. By his first marriage he leaves a family of one son and three daughters; and by the second marriage he leaves five daughters. His son, the Hon George Sholto Douglas-Pennant, who now succeeds to the title, was born in 1836. The deceased peer was exceedingly popular, notwithstanding his politics. The Queen visited Bangor accompanied by Prince Albert and two children in 1859. H.R.H. the Prince Consort and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales also visited Penrhyn Castle. In 1863 the Duke of Connaught paid a visit to the quarries and was conducted through the works by the deceased nobleman. The miners at the model village of Llandegai have been well cared for, and during the late distress some three hundred have been constantly provided for by the Castle. Mainly through his munificence Bangor Cathedral has been restored, and to almost every charitable institution and to every church restoration in the county he was a liberal subscriber. He was Lord Lieutenant of the county, and president of the University College, Bangor, and only a few weeks ago he gave ground for a church hostel in connection with it. In early life he was a very handsome man, and he was always a courteous country gentleman, of the old world type. No peer, even up to last year, was a more regular frequenter of the gallery in the House of Commons. The funeral took place on Tuesday at Llandegai Church, near Bangor. Among the chief mourners were the Duke of Grafton, Lord Sudeley, Lord Euston, Lord Harlech, Lord Mostyn, the Hon. H. Mostyn, and Mr H. R. Hughes, Kinmel. The Bishop of Bangor officiated.

"B.H." writes to the *Times*:—"Many of your readers may possibly be unaware that Lord Penrhyn, who has just passed away at the ripe age of eighty-six, formed one of the famous crew of six officers of the Guards who on the 24th of April, 1824, accomplished the historical feat of rowing from Oxford to Westminster-bridge within sixteen hours. I believe it is, moreover, a fact that Lord Penrhyn—then the Hon. E. Gordon Douglas, of the Grenadier Guards—was put in at the eleventh hour in the place of one of the crew who was incapacitated from rowing. It is somewhat curious, notwithstanding this, and that he had undergone no proper training for so arduous and unparalleled a feat—I say unparalleled, for it has never been accomplished before nor since—that Lord Penrhyn should have outlived all the other members of the crew."

APRIL 14, 1886.

NOTES.

SEDAN CHAIRS.—Referring to the mention of Sedan Chairs in the *Advertiser* two or three weeks ago, I may say that I remember being carried in one of them to a place of worship in Shrewsbury in my young days. I am only a little on what I call the *best* side of fifty.

Essex.

E.B.

EISTEDDFOD COMPETITION.—Will you allow me to mention the following books and MSS. as useful to intending competitors for the prize offered at the National Eisteddfod for a genealogical account of the descendants of Bleddyn ap Cynfyn, and also of Lewys Owen, commonly called Baron Owen:—Lewys Dwnn, published by Welsh MSS. Society—History of Powys Fadog, by Chevalier Lloyd—Mabinogion; *Notes*, by Lady C. Guest—Bye-Gones—Arch. Cambrensis. Also MSS. as follows: Cae Cyriog MSS.—Peniarth MSS.—Tai Croeson MSS.—Harleian MSS.—Rev. Owen Jones (Llandudno) MSS.—J. W. Y. Lloyd (Clochfaen, Llanidloes) MSS.—Mrs Ruck (Machynlleth) MSS.—Eben Fardd MSS.—Myrddin Fardd MSS.—British Museum MSS.—Mrs Jones-Parry (Aberdunant) MSS.—T. D. L. Jones-Parry, M.P., Madryn, MSS.—and many others, as well as copies of old wills at Bangor and registers.

Italy.

ANTIQUARY.

OSWESTRY WORKHOUSE (March 31, 1886).—The following extract from the report for the year 1819 of the Society for bettering the condition of the Poor within the Hundred of Oswestry will not be without interest at the present time, especially in connection with "W.I.B.'s" note:—

"It appears from the accounts annually published relating to the poor of Oswestry and its neighbourhood that an immense increase of expense has taken place within a few years. In the first year of their publication ended May, 1811, the total amount of money raised for the poor was £5,995 6s 4d, and in the last year ending May, 1818, £10,824 10s!!! Under the existing system of management it naturally follows that the expenditure must permanently be augmented. Great, however, as is the present amount, incredibly great as it would have been thought only a few years since, it ought not to be grudged by the contributors; it ought rather to be readily and cheerfully advanced, if any beneficial effect could be proved. But facts clearly and repeatedly set

forth its injurious tendency; they exhibit poverty thriving rapidly with the increase of parish relief, and paupers multiplied in number far beyond all proportion to the wants of employers or the means of subsistence.

"Such are the evils usually entailed upon the poor by the funds raised for their benefit, and laid out after the common mode of administering parish relief. But there are objections still further to be urged against the mode adopted in the neighbourhood of Oswestry. The immense establishment called the House of Industry (though it ill deserves that title) is to be condemned, not only on account of the many evils which it engenders in common with all other modes of administering the Poor Laws, but it is in itself productive of many bad consequences to society. The very forcible objections which have been lately urged, with much ability, against the usual system of crowding together many prisoners in the same court, or apartment of a gaol, are likewise applicable, though in a less degree, to the assemblage of numerous paupers in the same house. The latter class, though of course superior to the former, is not by any means composed of the best and most useful members of the community. It is collected rather from the least valuable, from the idle, thoughtless, and profligate. Some few worthy, but unfortunate, persons may indeed be blended with the general mass, but idleness, dissipation, and improvidence mark their general character. Of this description several hundred persons are constantly assembled under the same roof. During the last year their average number amounted to six hundred and seventy-three."

AGRICOLA.

QUERIES.

A MONTGOMERYSHIRE SUPERSTITION (Mar. 24, 1886).—There is always, I suppose, some explanation to be found of popular superstitions. The belief that it is unlucky to put a pair of boots on the table is puzzling. Can anyone give a parallel superstition, or help to explain this?

E.W.

NICKNAMES.—In December, 1873, your correspondent, STEEPLE JACK, stated that it used to be very common many years ago to say, "Take care how you go through Llanymynech, or you will have your tail cut!" I do not find any other reference to this saying in *Bye-Gones*, but it has lately appeared in your Shrewsbury contemporary, *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, and I should be glad of any information as to its origin.

Shrewsbury.

R.E.D.

BUFFALO DRINKING HORN.—In the "Lady of the Fountain," one of the Mabinogion tales, occurs the following:—"And the table of silver, and the cloths upon the table were of linen, and no vessel was served upon the table that was not either of gold or of silver *or of buffalo horn*." In a note on p. 51 referring to this the author says—"Drinking horns of this material are frequently mentioned by the Bards, and appear to have been made use of by the Welsh in all their banquets." Owen Cyfeiliog refers to it in his "Hirlas Horn"—"The highly honoured *buffalo* horn Hirlas, enriched with ancient silver." What puzzles the writer is, how could the Welsh at this period, the 11th or 12th century, have become acquainted with the *Buffalo*, which he had imagined was only found in North America. Can any

reader of *Bye-Gones* say whether the word "Buffalo" refers to some other animal than the American Bison?

GAMMA.

[Buffaloes are found in most of the warmer countries of the Eastern Hemisphere.—Ed.]

REPLIES.

SPYTTY (March 31, 1886).—The following two detached couplets from "Llyn y Morwynion," by Glasynys, will serve to explain the name "Ysptyty":—

Mynachlog! neu Ysptyty!

Mor swynol swn dy gloch.

I hen Ysptyty Ifan,

I wydd yr "Abad" fraeth.

It would seem from these lines to mean the abode of an abbot, and thus be synonymous with the name "Betws"—Abbot's House. As the monk of old was generally the doctor as well as the parson, it would no doubt often occur that a temporary sojourn in the abbey would be required of the patient. A Welshman would naturally soon give it the name of "Yspaid dy" (temporary house), which would soon be corrupted into "Spytty." Or, "Ysptyty" may, more likely, be the Welsh monks' corruption of the Latin name of their abode—"hospitium."

R. DAVIES.

Rhiwlas.

Spytty, or Ysptyty, means an Hospital in modern Welsh. So also does Dr. William Owen Pughe translate the word in the first edition of his Dictionary. It appears to me, however, that an "hospice" would better convey the meaning of the word—a house or place for the accommodation or shelter of travellers. When the Welsh mountains were more thinly populated than they are now, such a place as Ysptyty Ifan, and similar places, might have been of as much advantage to the houseless wanderer in Wales as the Hospice of St. Bernard and similar institutions on the Continent.

Dolgelley.

O.R.

THE VILL OF LLANLLUGAN (April 15, 1885).—In looking over the last completed volume of *Bye-Gones*, I observe one of your correspondents over the signature of DWYRHIEW, after quoting a latin description of the boundaries of the above Vill, asks some other correspondent to favour him with a translation of it. I do not see that any one has done so. The quotation given by DWYRHIEW is from an ancient Charter, by which Meredydd ap Ropert, Lord of Kedewen, granted "to God and the Blessed Mary and the holy nuns of Llanllugan" the land within the boundaries described in the Charter. It is set forth at length in "Montgomeryshire Collections," Vol. II., p. 305. Also a transcript of it made by Sir Thomas Phillips, Bart. I annex a quotation from this Charter somewhat more extended than the one given by DWYRHIEW, and the English of the same as given in Sir Thomas Phillips's transcript:—

Totam villam quæ dicitur Llanlucan cum omnibus pertinentibus et usibus et utilitatibus suis et commodis in bosco et in plano in pascuis et aquis, bene et in pace, plenarie et integre et honorifice in his terminis *on an this dal oluin iedin que unrud* et usque resi in illa parte, ex alia vero parte Oren usque reu arall et usque hal bren et usque redenock Præterea iisdem liber-

tatibus dedi supradictus sanctis monialibus dimidiam totius terræ olit usque Cust et usque Crig urno. Similiter dedi isdem totam terram quæ dicitur Tahalu in omnibus terminis et pertinentiis suis.

Translated thus in the transcript—"The whole ville which is called Llanlulan, with all its appurtenances, uses, advantages, and conveniences in wood, in plains, in pastures, and in waters, well and in peace, fully and wholly, and honourably within these boundaries, and as far as Resi on that side, but on the other side, Oren, as far as the Reu Arrall and as far as Hal Bren, and as far as Redenock; besides, with the same liberties, I have given to the above-mentioned nuns, the half of the whole land of Olit as far as Cust, and as far as Crig Urno. Likewise I have given to the same nuns all the land which is called Tahalu in all its boundaries and appurtenances." It will be observed on comparing the Latin quotation with the transcript that there is no equivalent in the latter for the words which I have italicized in the former; the translation therefore does not accurately represent the original; it omits a portion of the description of the boundaries, and it does not give a very intelligible translation of the remainder.

In my opinion, which I submit with diffidence, this has arisen from a want of acquaintance on the part of the transcriber or translator, with Welsh place names as well as names of natural objects. Reverting to the sentence which DWYRHIEW invited a translation of, and which runs in the printed copy of the Charter, "On an this dal oluin iedin que unrud et usque resi in illa parte ex alia vero parte Oren usque reu arall et usque hal bren et usque redenock;" and keeping in view the fact that the names describing the boundaries would necessarily be Welsh, a different arrangement of the *letters*, and a change of some of them in the foregoing quotation would give the sentence a more Celtic appearance. For example, "O nant hisdal o llwyn i edin que in rhyd et usque 'r resi in illa parte ex alia vero parte o Rhiew usque Rhiew arall et usque halbren et usque Rhyd Enoch." Again, in reference to the grant translated as "half of the whole land of Olit as far as Cust, and as far as Crig Urno," it would be more intelligible if the Latin would permit it to describe the grant as "half of the whole land o Lit as far as Cust, and as far as Crig Urno."

Meredydd ap Rotpert who granted these lands to the Nuns of Llanlulan was Lord of Kedewen. He resided at Dolforwyn Castle, near Abermule. He died at Strata Florida Abbey in Cardiganshire, in 1244, and was there buried.

PEARMAIN.

CURRENT NOTES.

The living of Bettws-yn-rhos, Denbighshire, which is of the annual value of £400, has been conferred on the Rev Bickerton Edwards, vicar of Llanwonno, near Pontypridd, brother of the late Dean of Bangor.

The font of Madeley Church, which was used by John Fletcher, and for many years has been the property of a private individual, by whom it has been carefully preserved, has been presented to the President of the Wesleyan Conference, and will probably be placed in the Methodist Museum in London.

Mr Owen Richards, M.D., of Vronheulog, formerly of Bala, died a few days ago. He carried on his practice at

Bala for a great number of years, and was very highly esteemed. He was chairman of the Local Bench of Magistrates, of the Board of Guardians, of Llanycil School Board, and of Penllyn Highway Board.

The ceremony of presenting new colours to the 3rd Battalion Cheshire Regiment was performed on Thursday at Lichfield. The colours replace those presented to the Regiment, then the 1st Royal Cheshire Militia, by the Marchioness of Westminster, in April, 1856. Colonel France-Hayhurst afterwards addressed the Battalion.

A special meeting of the Holywell Local Board was held last week for the purpose of re-letting the famous St. Winifred's Well. The well is at present held at an annual rental of £125 by the Rev. Father Swift, Roman Catholic priest at Holywell, on a lease for five years, which expires on the 1st May next. The rev. gentleman now offered £100 a year rent, and a further lease for three years was granted him on these terms. He also applied for permission to erect a statue of St. Winifred in a niche in the wall. It was decided that a resolution passed in 1878 would cover the present application, which was accordingly granted.

Sir Theodore Martin has published a metrical translation of the second part of the "Faust" of Goethe.

The *Ellesmerian*, the Magazine of St. Oswald's College, is creditable to the conductors, and we are glad to see that it has proved a financial success; which seems to prove that publishing periodicals in schools is a less risky venture than in the world outside! The *Ellesmerian* contains the news of the School, presented in good form, and an interesting account of an Atlantic voyage, the introduction to "Experiences in Manitoba." Altogether the School may be congratulated on its Magazine.

The *Red Dragon* keeps up to its level of excellence and continues to present us with a varied bill of fare. In the notice of Sir Thomas Phillips, the writer might have omitted his attack upon Rowland Williams; and where can "Beili Glas" have lived, to say of the Rev J. Llewelyn Davies, "he seems to have been an able writer." Mr Davies is happily still living to tell us where "this worthy was born." We have enjoyed Mr Frederick Cooper's "Books and Readers," with its well-deserved hit at "the restless philanthropist who divides his days between loving his fellow creatures and editing an evening newspaper," and its more respectful remonstrance with Mr Ruskin, who, if we may be allowed to say anything so blasphemous, is convicted of having said a very foolish thing. Another paper is on "Spence and His Anecdotes," and the "Story of Madoc's Discovery of America" is concluded.

If all antiquarian publications were like the Montgomeryshire Collections, archæology would be a much more popular pursuit. The editor knows how to hit the happy mean between dulness and frivolity, and he never fails to make the Powys Land Papers interesting to the general reader as well as most useful to the antiquary and the historian. But the present Part is particularly rich. It opens with an account of "Early Montgomeryshire Wills at Hereford Registry," by Mr Squires, and a note upon them by Mr E. R. Morris, whose extensive acquaintance with the subject enabled him to seize upon the points of interest which presented themselves in the course of a long and laborious search. It is astonishing how much can be learnt from wills of the history of a people and of their language. "Herbertiana" contains several interesting letters (contributed by Miss Nellie Rowley-Morris) from a collection of intercepted Jacobite correspondence. Mr J. Bickerton Morgan writes of "Smoky-faced Cattle," and, not to go

through the whole list, we have a "History of Llanbrynmair" by Mr Richard Williams, and "Materials for a History of Welshpool" by M. C. J. The preparation of these parochial histories is a work which cannot be too highly commended. Finally, through the characteristic generosity of the Earl of Powis, there is appended Part I. of the "Herbert Manuscripts at Powis Castle," fruits of the inquiry of the Royal Commission. We must return to this another time, and can only here mention a letter addressed by R. Holland to the second Duke of Powis, in which the writer urges his Grace to marry, and adds—"There are several young Catholic Ladys who would be glad to contribute to so glorious an end"!

Much has been said and written (says the *Shropshire Evening News*) of three ancient rings found in Shropshire, and a fourth might now be added, seeing that one was discovered in a ditch or fosse forming part of the outworks thrown up during the Civil War near the North Gate, Bridgnorth, and now in the possession of Mr Hubert Smith, the town clerk. One of the three mentioned is "The Cole-Hall Ring," in the possession of Mr S. Wood, F.S.A., St. Mary's Court, Shrewsbury; "The Preston Gobalds Ring," which is another, is in the possession of Mr Harper, grocer, Market-square, Shrewsbury; and the third is "The Leighton Ring," which was found some years ago among the ruins of Haughmond Abbey. It had on it the emblems of Time and Mortality, also shown upon Sir William Leighton's tomb. Around the verge was the motto, as on the inscription, "Qualis Vita. Finis. Ita," and within the hoop were the initials "W.L." From the device, motto, and initials little doubt could be entertained of its having belonged to Sir William; and it was one such as it was customary with barristers when raised to serjeants to present to a judge. It might after his death have been given as a token of friendship and esteem to his contemporary, Richard Barker, who was Recorder of Shrewsbury, and whose family resided at Haughmond Abbey. The subsequent history of this ring is curious. It was purchased by the Slopian Lodge of Freemasons, who unfortunately lost it. It was exhibited in the museum when the Archaeological Society visited Shrewsbury in 1855, when fortunately a wax impression was taken for the Rev W. A. Leighton, from which an electrotype was made, the only existing representative of the original.

APRIL 21, 1886.

NOTES.

ORIGIN OF SHERIFF'S MEN IN NORTH WALES.—Pennant, quoting from a *Corsygedol MS.*, states that "*Jevan*, alias *John ap Gruffudd ap Madog*, lived in great credit and esteem in the days of *Edward III.* (1327-1377), who gave him an annual stipend for guarding and conducting of the justice of *North Wales*, with a company of Archers, whilst he should sojourn and stay in the County of *Meirionedd*. This was occasioned by the people of *North Wales* (being unacquainted, in those days, with the *English* government) did often transgress; and the justices, for the reducing them to obedience, were driven to use severity, which incensed people sometimes to use violence against their justices, as in *South Wales*, *Geoffrey Clement*, justice of that country, was killed at *Buell*, and *W. Sutton* in *North Wales*. Afterwards the sheriffs of the counties were enjoined to meet the justice at his entrance into the county and to guard and conduct him to the utmost

bound of the county, where the sheriff of the next county did receive him." Z,

LORD RODNEY AND THE ANCIENT BRITONS. The question how Admiral Rodney was connected with the Principality has often been asked in connection with Rodney's Pillar. I have not discovered any definite reply, but it does not seem to be generally known that a subsequent Lord Rodney married a daughter of Sir Charles Morgan's. In a report of the 116th anniversary of the Society of Ancient Britons, in 1830, the Chairman (Lord Willoughby D'Eresby) announced that Lord Rodney had kindly consented to preside at the next anniversary, adding—"Lord Rodney, be it remembered, married a daughter of Sir Charles Morgan's." Sir Charles Morgan was one of the guests at the banquet; and I see the following addition to the National Anthem by Mr Parry (who was one of the vocalists on this occasion) was sung:—

May Heaven protect the throne,
And make the cause its own
Of George our King.
From danger e'er defend
Old Cambria's Prince and friend,
And blessings on him send,
Long live the King.

"Old Cambria's Prince and friend" was George IV.
E.W.

ANCIENT FUNERALS (Apr. 7, 1886).—MEMORANDUMS FOR GREAT FUNERALS.

For the church—Black for Communion table and beere ends. The pulpit cloth 2 yards: for to cover the cushion a yard of bayes and quater.

For the hearse—Of the courser sort of bayes 16 yards.

The heares to be made redy according to the note & to be covered with sayd black.

For the house—Black to hang in hall & dining room. 2 yards of black bayes for to put over the hall dore to put escuchons on. Black for rooffe.

For the body—A black cloth of 3 yards to put under the veluet to haue the veluet. . . . (see it be a good on)

a course sheete }
a fine sheete } to put ouer the body
2 bedd cords to bynd the body & carriage and a yard of bays for coch end
2 yards of bays for coch box
nayles for coch box
5 yards of bays for the 4 horses (a taylor to sow * on)

4 sheetes of pinnes of 8 in a row } for the body
4 sheetes of pinnes of 6 in a row } and hearse.

Memo. My cloke to be redy & my man's cloke a cloth of bayes to put ouer the body if it raynes or be wett
to have the carriage made redy by Saturday next and bound over with bed cords
a bed cord to let down the body to the grave
a note of all the mourners men & women & servants.
PEARMAIN.

* There is here a sketch, if I may so describe it, of a penon, pencil, or some other flag.

COMPARATIVE COST OF LIVING IN ENGLAND AND WALES IN THE LAST CENTURY.

—A writer of the last century, dating his communication at Aberystwyth, says:—"For want of other allurements I chose this place, to throw together the observations that were scattered about my note book respecting certain customs, usages, and a variety of other things, it may be proper for a traveller to be apprised of, particularly the articles of expenditure. In the first place, it is a settled usage and custom, throughout the Principality, for the trading part of the people to over-reach you in your little marketings or bargains with them, that is to say, they will ask all strangers of genteel appearance, about a third more than they would ask a native or countryman; but even allowing this, you will have almost all the necessities, and most of the luxuries, of life, at least by a third cheaper than, with very few exceptions, in the cheapest parts of England; at first you may put up with a little extortion, which will diminish as you become residentiary. All places, as they get into reputation for any beauty or convenience, and are, therefore, the resorts of people, that since they can afford to travel, are supposed to be wealthy, grow dear, at first imperceptibly, till in a few years that commodity which you could procure for sixpence, is not to be obtained for a shilling, and so on in proportion. This is remarkably verified in Wales. Ground house rent and the necessities of life are so much raised in price since my first tour in this country about twelve years ago, that were not the fact universally admitted, I should be afraid you would suspect me of profiting by the license *expected* to be taken by travellers, were I to mention the comparative difference betwixt that time and the present in both North and South Wales. Nevertheless, a good economist might, in the family way, even at the present day, make one hundred pounds tell in this county to three hundred in any other, belonging, properly to England. I here speak however of comparative prices in the smaller towns and villages; in the cities the estimate must be about two to one in favour of Wales.

"In Caernarthen and Caernarvon, for example, the one a principal town to the southward, the other northward, you get fish, fowl, butchers' meat, eggs, bacon, and firing, certainly the grand articles in domestic establishment, on an average at the following rates:—

	S.	D.
Salmon, fresh and fine, from the market, per pound	0	2
A fine turbot	ditto	0 2½
Fine cod—each	...	0 1
Eggs, eight, nine, ten, for	...	0 1
Couple of ducks, or fowls fit for killing	...	1 0
(Very often)	...	0 10
Chickens, half grown, each for	...	0 3
A fat goose or turkey, each	...	1 0
Bacon, per pound	...	0 5
Beef, mutton, &c., &c....	...	0 3
Coals, or rather culm, per bushel	...	0 2

In little villages higher up the country, both ways, the cheapness, for want of a market, is still more extraordinary, if we except the remote places of England near the sea coast and certain parts of Cornwall and Yorkshire. This statement, which you may depend on as the correct result of residentiary remark, will convince you that this principality is not more abundantly supplied

with the ornamental than the useful; and that, as those who have taste, fortune, and talents, could not be more gratified than in visiting it on the score of romantic beauty, so they who found it expedient to retrench, to narrow their establishment, and yet to diminish none of the comforts to which they have been accustomed, could not anywhere find a more peaceful, plentiful, and healthy retreat.

"With this additional *agrément*, that almost all places are so surrounded by good neighbours, and there is really such a dispositional, as well as hereditary hospitality amongst the native gentry, that a new settler never need to be in want of agreeable society." KELT.

QUERIES.

HARRIS OR HARRIES.—There is, I have been told, a monument dated 1746 in the chancel of Pontesbury Church, Salop, to a member of the Harris or Harries family. Will any of your readers kindly give me copy of the inscription, heraldic arms, and motto thereon? Sir Thomas Harries, Bart., of Tong Castle, Salop, who died about the year 1685, had three brothers. Can any of your readers kindly give me their Christian names? E. HARRIS.

Waterford.

STRATA MARCELLA ABBEY.—Have any excavations ever been made about or on the site of this once famous Abbey? If not, presuming that the consent of the nobleman on whose land it stood could be obtained, would it not be within the scope of the Powysland Club to expend a few pounds in tracing and exposing the foundations of the fabric—and in searching for the graves of some of the many eminent men that it is said have been buried there?

If there were no funds in hand applicable to such a work no doubt an appeal to the members and others who take an interest in such matters would produce a sum sufficient for the objects above suggested. DELTA.

SPYTTY (April 14, 1886).—At the old mansion of Pentre Hobyn, near Mold, now the property of Athewold Pennant Lloyd, Esq., are the remains of some "Spytty" and of a "Bettws" or house for the Abbot, or Matron. Can any reader of "*Bye-Gones*" give me the history of these "Spytlys"? Was Pentre Hobyn at one time a religious house? or were they built by the kindness of the owner of those days for the accommodation and nightly shelter of the weary traveller? I believe a certain amount of bread was also given to the wandering wayfarer, but shall be glad of information. GWYNEDD. Wrexham.

REPLIES.

NEWCOME FAMILY. — BAXTER FAMILY (March 24, 1886).—Archdeacon Newcome is described in Thomas's *St. Asaph* as a nephew of the Rev. W. Parry, M.A., Warden of Ruthin, 1784, but how he was related to Bishop Newcome and the Rev. Henry Newcome, Vicar of Gresford, the Bishop's nephew, I do not know.—The Baxters are a very old Montgomeryshire family. Wm. Baxter, the philologist (a native of Llanllugan) was, as is well known, a nephew of Richard Baxter, the eminent divine. The Rev. John Baxter, Rector of Newtown (1702-1718) probably belonged to the Baxters of

Newtown—very likely distantly related to those of Llanllugan. Other branches of the family lived in Llanwnnog and Trefeglwys. There are monuments to some of them—the Baxters of Bryn, Llanllwchaiarn, and others—in Llanwnnog Church. William, Earl of Powis, granted, 1st Oct., 1675, to James Baxter of Hendidley (Llanllwchaiarn) a Lease of the old Market House and Tolls at Newtown, and about 10 acres of land for 99 years from Michaelmas, 1675, at a rent of £40 a year and 6s 8d heriot at the decease of every principal tenant. The names of Richard Baxter of the Hundred of Newtown and of James Baxter of Bryncaemeisir [Berriew] appear on the Grand Jury List in 1634. W.

CURRENT NOTES.

The new parish church of Llandyssul, Cardiganshire, which has been built by Captain Stuart of Alltgyrdyn, Cardiganshire, and his relatives, in memory of the late Mrs Stuart, was consecrated a few days ago by the Bishop of St. David's.

From time immemorial the Corporation of Ruthin have exacted tolls on all horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and other produce brought to the town for sale on market and fair days. The authority to levy these tolls was given by the Charter which was granted to the town so far back as the year 1282. For some years the tolls have been let by tender to a contractor, and they have hitherto been regularly collected and paid without any demur. However, at the last fair the farmers tendered in most cases one-half only of the legal toll, and the collector had considerable difficulty in obtaining his dues, while in one case a large farmer refused to pay any toll whatever.

Mr J. H. Puleston, M.P., gave a dinner last week to the Wheelwrights' Company, of which he is the Master for the current year. The dinner was given in the magnificent hall of the Merchant Taylors' Company. Mr Puleston's popularity with all political parties was evidenced by the presence amongst the guests of the Marquis of Ripon, the Earl of Egmout, Mr H. H. Fowler, M.P., Mr Peter Rylands, M.P., Colonel Cornwallis West, M.P., the Hon. George Kenyon, M.P., Sir W. Guyer Hunter, M.P., Sir Richard Webster, M.P., Sir Rivers Wilson, Mr Bartlett Burdett-Coutts, M.P., the Consul-General of the United States, Capt. Price, M.P., Mr E. R. Russell, M.P., Mr Edmund Yates, and many other distinguished men in politics and literature. The toast of the Master was received with the highest honours.

The following is extracted from "Our Own Country":—"The position and general character of Ludlow castle are better seen from the hill top; but we may well linger half-way down to admire the graceful outline of the far distance, the mass of towers and broken wall, the clustered leafage, and the broad rushing stream that sparkles below. It is in early spring that this scene is most beautiful. The trees—oaks and sycamores—that grow on the outer bank of the castle and brush its walls are large and have some age. When the spring is not far advanced, their veil of leafage, their "yonge fresh grene," scarcely hides the main lines of the castle walls, and yet adds a grace to their ruggedness. The walls are here and there rusted with lichens, and in places overgrown with ivy and tufted with wallflowers. Towers with irregular and shattered crabs rise at intervals. Here and there the dark rock on which the castle is finished breaks through the thin covering of turf. Above the long line of ruined walls and towers rises the tower of the church, perfect; whilst those of the war-

like fortress have been shattered; and far beyond, eastwards, rising above church and castle, is the long ridge of the Clew Hill, with its overhanging summit. East and west the eye ranges over a bright, tree-shadowed country, with broken hills and green soft meadows, rich and deep in colour. The clear sky of spring-time is flecked with cloudlets, the air rings with the voices of blackbird and thrush, the sound of the river comes faintly upward, and if by good fortune the bells of St. Lawrence should send their music across from the church tower, nothing will be wanting to complete the charm of a scene so beautiful and so suggestive.

THE VALUE OF LAND IN SHROPSHIRE.—Returns sent in by the overseers show that in 1885 there was a considerable decrease in the value of land in Shropshire, the actual amount of the falling off being nearly £44,000. In 1882 the decrease amounted to rather over that sum, but in 1884 it was something like £10,000 less. Wellington, Wem, Whitechurch, Church Stretton, Market Drayton, Ludlow, and Newport Unions, showed no decrease in value, but there was a decrease in Atcham, Bridgnorth, Cleobury Mortimer, Madeley, Oswestry, and other Unions. The greatest falling off is apparent in Bridgnorth Union, where it amounts to no less than £19,000.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

CHARLES EDWARDS, AUTHOR OF "HANES Y FFYDD," AND HIS TIMES.

BY MR IVOR JAMES.

On Thursday, April 1, the second meeting of the winter session of the Cymmrodorion Society was held at the Library, Lonsdale Chambers, when Mr Ivor James of Cardiff read a paper on "Charles Edwards, author of Hanes y Ffydd Ddifuant, with a reference to his times." The chair was occupied by Professor Powel, M.A., late Editor of the Society's Transactions, who very briefly introduced Mr James to the meeting. The paper, of which we give an abstract, was of inordinate length, but it contained many passages of great interest, the result of special research by Mr Ivor James into State Records at the British Museum and elsewhere. To readers of the *Advertiser* the subject possesses also some local interest:—

For nearly 220 years the chief work of Charles Edwards, "Hanes y Ffydd Ddifuant," has continued in the very highest estimation amongst Welsh scholars. For nearly 100 years Welsh scholars have been seeking for particulars of the author's life. Dr Lewis Edwards, in 1852, said, in effect:—What the writers of that age (seventeenth century) were thinking about we know not, but thinking of preserving on the earth the memory of the best of men they were not. If so much as a word of the history of Charles Edwards was inscribed by his contemporaries on paper or on tombstone, the record has long since been blotted out. His last editor, the Rev. Wm. Edmunds, head master of Lampeter Grammar School, compares him to Robert Nelson and Isaak Walton; the editor of the 1811 edition, Dr Williams, compares him to Leighton and Gurnall, and Edmunds tells us that some parts of "Hanes y Ffydd" are worthy of Butler and of Paley. Mr Prys, the last writer on Welsh literature, adds nothing to our information, but he places Edwards in the same literary rank with Bishop William Morgan and Bishop Richard Parry, the Welsh translators of the Bible; Dr John Davies of Mallwyd; and the Rev Goronwy Owen. Some years ago, at the British Museum, the Public Record Office, the Lambeth Library, Dr Williams's library, and other of our national collections, I was so fortunate as to

discover a large mass of matter in books and MSS. illustrative of the condition of Wales in the seventeenth century. In connection with Charles Edwards, the most valuable discovery was that of his autobiography, a small octavo tract bound up with another, entitled "Fatherly Instructions," but at that time not separately entered in the British Museum catalogue. The autobiography was privately printed for distribution among Edwards's friends. It is entitled "An Afflicted Man's Testimony Concerning his Troubles," and is in English. The narrative partakes of the character of an apology for his life. "Long afflictions," he says, "exposing me to many obloquies and dangers, I think meet, for the Gospel's sake, to leave some account of my ways by this present writing, that truth may appear, whatever become of me." His object seems to have been to clear himself of charges—I suppose of Nonconformity, perhaps of heterodoxy—levelled against him in town and country, in the common talk, in sermons, and, presumably, in pamphlets of the period. He does not tell us the nature of these charges; he seems to imply that they were too well known to need description. His story, consequently, is disappointing, and is marked by absence of details of his domestic and literary career. He does not tell us anything—not even the names or social positions of his father, mother, or family connections. He does not mention the place of his birth or the school or college at which he was educated. He remarks incidentally that he studied at Oxford, but he leaves us in doubt as to whether or not he ever proceeded to a degree. Not a glimpse does he give us of the educational condition or the political struggles of Wales in the days of his youth and early manhood. For these facts we have to look elsewhere. Fortunately, the books of All Souls' College, Oxford, afford us some little information. He entered the College at sixteen years of age in 1644. He must have been born, therefore, in 1628. His father is described as a plebeian. The Great Ness pedigree gives a different account, and describes the father as "Robert Edwards, of Cynleth, gentleman." I cannot now discuss the question whether the Edwardses of the two records are one and the same. Where and from whom did Charles receive his elementary and intermediate training? That his early training was of a most excellent character is certain, for at sixteen he was prepared to enter the University with advantage. At All Souls', presumably on the results of an examination, he was awarded the place and emoluments of a Bible clerk, and in 1649, when he was as yet but 21 years old, he gave proof, as we shall presently see, of ripe scholarship. What was the educational condition of a remote Welsh district which enabled a plebeian at a very early age to win distinctions at one of the ancient Universities of the kingdom? I cannot do more than give a glance at the subject, but I propose briefly to show the state of the country by the state (a) of the clergy, (b) of the gentry. It is, however, necessary to remind you that the picture of the time drawn by our recent historians is in the blackest colours. One characterises the whole generation of clergy as "ignorant, degraded, and disgraceful." "The mass of the nation were as ignorant and superstitious in 1639 as they were in 1558." Another paints "the blind ignorance which prevailed for want of schools." Unfortunately, many documents have been destroyed by fire and flood, carelessness, or from interested motives. Of the evidence remaining I cannot give even a rough outline. The mistakes of recent historians arise from two causes: (1) Misinterpretation of the terms "delinquent," "malignant," and "ignorant," as used in official documents of the Commonweath and Protectorate; and (2) the inability, from one cause or other, of our his-

torical writers to make sufficient use of the authorities in the great national libraries, at the Public Record Office, and elsewhere. The terms "delinquent," "malignant," and "ignorant," as used by the Roundheads, had little or no relation to moral obliquity or ignorance of the liberal arts. The ignorance generally was ignorance of what the dominant party believed to be religious truth. The Presbyterian and the Independent were equally ignorant in the eyes each of the other, whilst both coincided in their judgment of the ignorance of the Episcopalian. Jeremy Taylor, the quondam Carmarthenshire schoolmaster; Dr Wm. Nicholson, the writer on the Catechism, for 28 years the Vicar of Llandilo Fawr, and, subsequently, Bishop of Gloucester; Dr John Ellis, Vicar of Guilsfield, then Rector of Dolgelley, and the founder of the Dolgelley Grammar School; Oliver Thomas, the reputed author of "Carwry Cymry," one of the most remarkable little works ever issued; Wm. Thomas, Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford, Vicar of Laugharne, and then Bishop of St. David's and of Worcester; Dr Griffith Williams, Bishop of Ossory; Vaughan, Fellow of Jesus College and brother of "the Silurist"; Dr Francis Mansell, that "sterling Head" of Jesus College, rivalled in his time only by his own countryman, Dr John Owen, as Dean of Christ Church and Cromwell's Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, could by no stretch of the imagination be held to be ignorant in the ordinary sense of the word, or immoral except in their disobedience to the Government in office. From a huge mass of evidence preserved in books and MSS., written for the most part by writers attached to the Parliamentary side, I conclude that by 1653 the Commissioners, under the Act of 1649, had ejected at least 416 clergymen, graduates of the Universities, and had appointed, probably, 150 preachers to succeed them, of whom it is related "the major part are University men." The Commissioners, like the bishops, looked to the Universities. The work of ejection continued till 1659; the parishes numbered about a thousand. Pluralities of benefices, we are told, was not long before as great a sin as pluralities of wives. It is impossible, however, to get at the exact number of the ejected clergy, but, according to the witnesses on both sides, they were many hundreds, and, though one cannot be certain in the matter, the evidence goes to show that they were, whether degraded or not, all University men. It will, no doubt, occur to some that, though it may be altogether impossible to recover the names of those graduates generally, it ought not to be very difficult to get at the names of a considerable number of the most distinguished in Charles Edwards's time, say those who possessed the D.D. degree. I have examined my own papers with that view, and now venture to present a list which I am quite conscious is not perfect. In the nature of things, the names only of the best known even of the D.D.'s—those, for instance, who attained to high ecclesiastical positions, or who left great literary works behind them—would survive to our day; and of those names which have thus survived I cannot pretend to a knowledge of the whole or anything like the whole. Only a close examination of the books of the two Universities—and those books themselves were most irregularly and imperfectly kept—would give us the names of the Welsh D.D.'s flourishing in the life time of Charles Edwards, that is, roughly speaking, from 1628 to the Revolution of 1688. At the present moment, with our greatly increased population and vast commercial wealth, I do not think that Wales can boast of half a dozen D.D.'s of Oxford and Cambridge. The list contains the names of 31 bishops and 48 other Welsh D.D.'s, six LL.D.'s or D.C.L.'s, eleven B.D.'s, seventeen Fellows of Colleges whose homes are known, and seventeen Fellows

of Colleges whose homes are not ascertained by me. In addition, there were twelve English D.D.'s in Wales in the period. The Fellows are mostly Oxford Fellows. I have not been able to consult the Cambridge records. But many of the eminent men of the time were neither Doctors nor Fellows. The names will readily occur to all, of Vicar Pritchard, Oliver Thomas, David Lloyd, the biographer, Vaughan, "the Silurist"; Archdeacon Prys, James Howell, the Royal historian, and many others. The total number of D.D.'s and Fellows is over 150. How many can the oldest man among us remember as belonging to Wales in the past 50 years? It is necessary to bear in mind that nearly all these men had been educated before the middle of the century, and had passed away before the Revolution of 1688. If any one should entertain a doubt about the value of the D.D. degree of those remote days, I have only to remark that the men I have named were Doctors of the time of John Milton, Conant, Prideaux, Jeremy Taylor, and John Owen—D.D.'s of almost the proudest period in the history of the Universities and of English literature. The intellectual character of the Welsh scholars of the seventeenth century is further attested by the remarkable fact that in the 150 years commencing 1558 and ending 1714 at least 50 Welshmen were raised to the Episcopal bench, or about one in every third year. Of those bishops, four were translated from the See of Sodor and Man to English bishoprics, eight were translated from Welsh Sees to English bishoprics, five were Irish bishops, four were English bishops who had never ruled over Welsh bishoprics, and four were archbishops. The very numerous books published in English or in Latin by Welshmen in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries are monuments of industry, high attainments, and ability. Some account of them may be found in the literary remains of Moses Williams, in Williams's "Eminent Welshmen," in Rowlands's "Cambrian Bibliography," in Mr Prys's "Essay on Welsh Literature," and in Wood's "Athenæ Oxoniensis." Calamy, in his "Life of Baxter," makes a remark very significant of the intellectual character of the clergy. He states that Baxter, who was already known for his learning, and who afterwards deserved the immortality he attained, was ordained a clergyman, although he had never been to a University. Edwards, the translator into Welsh of the "Marrow of Modern Divinity," speaks of the clergy as "Y Dygawdwy'r Eglwysig."

I estimate the population at not more than 250,000. The final result, therefore, is that in Wales in 1640 there were some scores of Doctors in Divinity, and probably many hundreds of clerical graduates, ministering to a people only a little, if at all, exceeding the number of the combined populations of Cardiff and Swansea in 1886. Then, what about the gentry? Were they intellectually inferior to the clergy? Would they have been content on their own estates and in their own halls to appear at a disadvantage as compared with the clergy, of whom some subsisted upon the profits of vicarages of the annual value of twenty marks? To assume anything of the kind would be to misunderstand all post-Reformation history. The old Universities of England have existed in the main for the education of the sons of the nobility and wealthy gentry. The professional classes have received their training under the wings of the great landholders. From a variety of evidence—particularly the many thousands of the letters, petitions, and protests of the gentry whose estates were sequestrated (the papers are in the Record Office)—I infer the excellent education and high culture of the gentry. The handwriting is uniformly good; the English bold, clear, idiomatic, and incisive. In these papers there is nothing to distinguish them from similar compositions by

the country gentry of England of the time. One author characterises the whole body as "y pendeigion ysgol-heigedd." Of thirteen eminent Denbighshire men of the time seven were laymen. The author of *Gemitus Ecclesie* supplies the key and explanation of the whole position. He says:

The gentry are men of knowledge, religion, and breeding, most of them having had their education in the best schools and Universities of this land. And the commonalty generally are careful to bring up their children in private schools.

Fifty years earlier Camden, the master of Westminster School, who was in a position to know the truth of the case, wrote:—

And since they (the Welsh) were admitted to the Imperial Crown of England they have, to their just praise, performed all the parts of dutiful loyalty and allegiance most faithfully thereunto; plentifully yielding martial captains, judicious civilians, skilful common lawyers, learned divines, complete courtiers, and adventurous soldiers.

A much more important fact, however, is that Wales itself was better provided with Intermediate Schools in the first half of the seventeenth century than at the close of the nineteenth. The only Grammar Schools established in Wales, I think, since the seventeenth century are those of Llandovery and Ystradmeurig. Substantially, the Grammar Schools, which were all too few 250 years ago for a population of 250,000, have in some shape now to supply the needs of more than one million and a half. In that day they were very unequally distributed. Glamorgan, Carmarthen, Pembroke, Brecon, and Radnor had only one each; Denbighshire five. North Wales was richer in schools than South. North Wales was, therefore, richer in illustrious men. The educational superiority of North Wales is strikingly illustrated by the fact that of the 50 bishops to whom reference has been made 35 belonged to North, nine to South, whilst nine are of uncertain origin. In connection with those early schools there are several points which demand our admiration, (1) they were planted in the midst of what were then the great populations; (2) the schools, to the full extent of the power of the trustees, were free and, therefore, open to the poorest; (3) their efficiency is attested by the great number of men prepared in them for the highest positions in Church and State. With only two important exceptions, all the old Grammar Schools are due to the charity of individuals. In earlier times the Welsh schools were monastic. At the Reformation they were destroyed by the Government and their revenues distributed among the English nobility, new English cathedral establishments, and some of the Oxford and Cambridge Colleges. The £12,000 a year bestowed on our National Colleges is but a sorry compensation for the wrongs which the Welsh counties suffered at the hands of the authorities over three centuries ago. But the Grammar Schools could not have been all. The evidence indubitably proved that many of the clergy kept private schools. There was a famous school at Crickhowell, another at Llanymynech, a third at Carnarvon. Wm. Thomas, afterwards Bishop of St. David's and Worcester, had a school at Laugharne. One very remarkable circumstance indicates that in the estimation of men of cool judgment and splendid attainments there was a demand for schools of the highest order. Although the Grammar School existed at Carmarthen and William Thomas's School at Laugharne, and possibly other schools in other parts of the county, Dr Nicholson, vicar of Llandilofawr, and subsequently Bishop of Gloucester, invited Jeremy Taylor and William Wyatt (subsequently Prebendary of Lincoln) to join in a school which was opened at Newton Hall, near Golden Grove. In the preface to their "New and Easy Institution of Grammar" they dignified their establishment with the name of *Collegium*

Newtoniense. The venture proved a financial failure. It would have been, indeed, wonderful if, in the circumstances of Carmarthenshire at the time, the profits of the *Collegium Newtoniense* had been sufficient to maintain three families. The ballads of the time supply us with some evidence. In one, written to the tune of "A Poor Scholar," reference is made to the relation of the clergy to the instruction of youth, the immediate subject being the deprived Bishop of Llandaff :—

So so ! so ! her hath tricks now
In her poor brayne.
Owen will by her wits now
Both goe in frieze,
Eat bread and cheese—
A school shall her maintain.

It must not be imagined that the work of the schoolmaster was left to the needy or the reprobate. The schoolmaster was frequently rewarded with the highest preferences in the Church. Morgan Owen passed from the Carmarthen Grammar School to the See of Llandaff. Men of birth and wealth frequently consecrated their lives to the instruction of youth. For instance, one among very many, the Warden of Ruthin, at the breaking out of the wars, was Dr David Lloyd, a former Fellow of All Souls, the author of "The Legend of Captain Jones." He was one of the sons of the family of Berth Llwyd, near Llanidloes, a family distinguished for services to the King. Of the Warden's own history and social position we may gather something from a petition lying among the State papers. Among other things in that petition, we are told that

Your petitioner hath often entertained at his own charge Prince Rupert, Prince Maurice, and other chief commanders and officers of the Royal Army, and once your Royal Father himself was pleased to honour your petitioner's house with his presence. Lastly, he hath been sequestered, imprisoned, and often plundered of his utter impoverishment, ruin of his estate, and undoing of himself, wife, and children.

He asked for the Deanery of St. Asaph and the Rectory of Henllan. He got what he asked for, but he never recovered from the losses caused by his devotion to the Crown. His burial-place is unmarked by monument, but his epitaph, written, as some say, by himself, survives, and is sufficiently suggestive :—

This is the epitaph
Of the Dean of St. Asaph,
Who by keeping a table
Better than he was able
Ran into debt,
Which is not paid yet.

It would seem that from the earliest days of the Reformation the Welsh clergy had devoted themselves largely to tuition. An example in high places was set by Bishop Richard Davies, who, we are told, educated the sons of many of the nobility and gentry along with his own children, in the palace at Abergwili. The cause of the decline of learning in Wales I shall describe hereafter.

It is very probable that Charles Edwards was brought up at Oswestry Free School or at Ruthin. To the Warden of Ruthin, a former Fellow of All Souls, he probably owed his election to a Bible clerkship. At Oxford he entered a new world. There from the reign of Elizabeth, Calvinistic doctrines, with lessening force indeed, had remained dominant through the labours of Prideaux, Abbott, Hoyle, Conant, and John Owen, whilst the Laudian school had acquired increasing power through the exertions of Sheldon, Jeremy Taylor, and Stewart. The champions on either side were men of mighty minds, giant energies, and dauntless purpose. Edwards felt their power, and he seems to have passed through a period of inward spiritual conflict. In his autobiography he says :—

In my youth, while I studied at Oxford, very piercing inward

troubles pressed my mind for several months together, which made me spend many an hour in secret pensiveness, and by supplication to importune the Lord for His mercy and favour, through Christ, in a more earnest manner than I had been acquainted with before. And being heartily convinced of the goodness of God, I took a resolution to serve him more carefully than I had done.

This seems to have been the turning point and the key of his life. The hold which the Established Church had upon him was relaxing. He still accepted the XXXIX. Articles, but in the Calvinistic sense. Within ten years he abandoned episcopacy, and once for all gave his adhesion to Nonconformity. But his Nonconformity was rather of the type of Dr John Owen's and Roger Williams's than of Richard Baxter's. Spiritual suffering gave place to physical.

"About the same time," he says, "I was prostrated by fever."

On his recovery he was surprised by another kind of danger, which his own quaint words will best describe :—

One that seemed a genteel person took acquaintance with me, who, selling a horse in the town, entered my name in the toll-book as a voucher for him. The buyer informing me that he was gone, and that my name was in the book in his behalf, I was much vexed at it, because I suspected him to be extravagant. And when he came to Oxford again I urged him to find another voucher and to take out my name, which, with much indignation, he did, and then swore he would kill me, and I think he came to my chamber door for that purpose. Some time after he was taken in a robbery and put to death—so God delivered me from his hands.

We have no further glimpse of him until 1648. In that year the University presented a sad reflection of the times. A great number of the undergraduates at the College, at the commencement of the Parliamentary visitation, had entered before the wars. Many had returned to their counties and taken up arms. One-half or more, from one cause or another, never proceeded to their degrees. Take an example with a local interest. The total number of names on the boards of Jesus College was only 22, the Principal, seven Fellows, and fourteen students, of whom three graduated and eleven left the College without graduating. Before the wars the undergraduates numbered probably near 100. The members of the University recorded in the register as natives of Wales are only 22, of whom thirteen were fellows or students of Christ Church and six scholars or Bible clerks. Of the 22, eight, or more than 33 per cent. are entered as of plebeian origin, whilst the social position of five is not given. To these figures, however, I attach very little value, for of the 990 members of the University the authorities neglected to state the counties of 428, of whom 49 possessed Welsh names. Among the 49 were James Davies, Samuel Jones of Llangynwyd ; William Thomas, afterwards settled as schoolmaster at Swansea ; Jenkin Lloyd, Fellow of Jesus College ; John Evans of Penegoes ; Jonathan Roberts, Fellow of Jesus ; Timothy Thomas, and James Quarrell, all well known to readers of Rees's History of Nonconformity. The Society of All Souls' consisted of 35, including 31 Fellows. The two undergraduates were Charles Edwards and John Winne, both Bible clerks and plebeian natives of Denbighshire. Four of the Fellows were Welshmen—William Bassett of Beaupre, Glamorgan, Thomas Croft of Carmarthen, Oliver Lloyd, brother of the Warden of Ruthin, and George Stradling, St. Donat's Castle, Glamorganshire. The Parliamentary visitors began their work in 1647. The first order was to the heads of houses, the second to the Vice-Chancellor. Then the members of one College after another were summoned and asked whether they were willing to submit to the authority of Parliament in the visitation. It has been remarked by Professor Burrows that out of

the mass of answers given scarcely two are alike; the effort to escape from the consequences of direct disobedience, and yet to satisfy the conscience of the respondent, being as varied as the composition of the human mind. The answers of the Welsh compare to advantage with those of the English. Many of them are very direct indeed. Most of them are uncompromisingly Royalist. A few specimens may not be uninteresting:—

James Quarrell, the first pastor of the Congregationalists at Shrewsbury, an exhibitor at Jesus College:—

I, who am a member of the University and of Jesus College, do believe that I ought not, neither can I with a safe conscience submit to this visitation.

James Davies, who in 1662 was ejected from Merthyr, Carmarthen, was a commoner of St. John's College. He refused to submit in these words—

I do refer myself to the answer given in by the President and Fellows of this College.

Hugh Meredith of Queen's—

So far as I understand, there is a difference between you and the University which I am not capable of, and I do not intend to engage myself in such business until I am better informed.

The next thing I have seen of him is his signature to a very influentially-signed paper of congratulation sent from North Wales to Charles II. at the Restoration.

Samuel Jones of Llangynwyd, the founder of the Llangynwyd School, afterwards transferred to Carmarthen, and now known as the Presbyterian College:—

As far forth as you have power from the King, I do submit.

Robert Lloyd:—

Forasmuch as that relation I have to the house obligeth me no further than to be here now and gone to-morrow, I think I am not concerned.

He was gone on the morrow, I presume, for I can find no further trace of him.

John Hughes, Fellow of Jesus, gave high offence:—

Seeing I have not so large a conscience as to entertain every crudity of doctrine: Be it known to you that I will not (were it to save my life), nor can I, as a member of Jesus College, acknowledge this present Parliament, much less submit thereto, nor to your pretended authority as derived from them.

That proud answer brought him trouble enough.

John Evans of Penegoes, in Montgomeryshire, in later times minister of the Wrexham Independent Church, scholar of Balliol:—

Having seen the reasons of the University, I cannot, without further satisfaction, with a safe conscience, submit to this visitation.

The famous Philip Henry:—

I do willingly submit to anything that I may with a safe conscience and without perjury.

The non-submitters were expelled, except Philip Henry, who was kept in his place as student of Christ Church through the favour of his godfather, the Earl of Pembroke, Chancellor of the University. Charles Edwards's account of his own examination is in these words:—

About the end of the Civil Wars, visitors being sent to the University, I was, among others, questioned to be removed from a place I had in a College and another voted in. My crime was an answer I had given to the said visitors, to submit to them as far as lawfully I might, and that was construed into a contempt, though I had intended only modesty and wariness by it.

His answer, like the answers of all the rest, is given in the Visitors' Register. On June 1 he was called before the visitors, and the usual question put to him. The following is the answer:—

I humbly submit to this visitation as far as its proceedings be

according to the laws of the land and the statutes of this University.

The other Bible clerk from Denbighshire, John Winne, gave a shorter answer on the same day:—

I humbly submit to this visitation as far as it may lawfully concern me.

On June 14 both Charles Edwards and John Winne were expelled from All Souls'. Winne's name now disappears altogether. Edwards's relation is not quite accurate. The autobiography is dated 1691, or forty-three years after the event, and the error may be attributed to frailty of memory. He says, "Upon the solicitation of some friends, the matter was deferred, and a Fellowship in another College offered me." That his friends were working in his behalf is sufficiently clear. That they were upon the spot is probable. They were certainly influential; for on the 27th of October he received a high mark of favour by his election to a scholarship at Jesus College. In those days a scholarship was the ordinary avenue to a Fellowship. Of all the Colleges Jesus alone was cleared by the soldiers. On October 30, 1648, the soldiers turned out the old and turned in the new Fellows and scholars, among them being men well known in Wales—Charles Edwards, Jones of Llangynwyd, Jenkin Lloyd, Jonathan Roberts, Timothy Thomas, and others. But fortune did not shine on Edwards very long. He seems to have been too candid and outspoken for his new acquaintances. His whole life bespeaks his moderation, broad views, and catholic spirit. But breadth of view and catholicity of spirit were not calculated to recommend him to some of the bigots who ruled the College at the time. Perhaps they had not forgotten his answer to the visitors at All Souls'. Anyway, the sincerity of his recent conversion seems to have been suspected. He was put to the test in a way which might have been flattering to the unwary, but was scarcely creditable to a learned society. The revenues of the College were low, and the Master and Fellows, or some of them, may have been anxious to increase their annual dividends, they cared not how. "In June, 1649, I was," he says, "appointed to make a Latin declamation in praise of clemency." Where the declamation was delivered is not known. The occasion was not an ordinary one. The declamation could not have been a mere College exercise, for he says, "several considerable persons" had been invited "to hear the managing of it." He appears to have thrown all his soul into the subject.

"The theme," he says, "being mitigating and grateful to my disposition, and several considerable persons being to hear the managing of it, I did it as effectually as I could."

The circumstances which affected most persons at the moment no doubt affected Edwards also. The wars had left the country desolate. Oxford was in confusion. The old rulers and most of the old Fellows had disappeared under the iron sway of the visitors. A few months previously the King had died at the hands of the common executioner. Almost every semblance of liberty was lost. From his Welsh home the news came to Edwards that the Roundheads were taking a terrible revenge on the poor Royalist gentry, perhaps on some of his own friends and relatives, who had already voluntarily impoverished themselves in support of their King. It was at this moment he was asked to praise clemency. In the mouth of a Falkland or a Hampden, the declamation by universal vote of sober persons would have been stamped as timely and noble—but it was scarcely discreet as coming from a poor scholar who hoped to attain to the more lucrative and honourable position of Fellow of his College. It is true the declamation, as a mere eulogy on clemency, might have been written at any time and in any circumstances. But at the particular

juncture the words might very naturally have been interpreted to point to the prevailing state of things. The references to the blunt sceptre of Royalty, the keen sword of the soldier, the daily fever of fear, the people which has always proved a beast of many heads and more horns, a new Government thrusting its way by force, a power reared over a deluge of blood, a structure raised over a mound of dead bodies, and men who hoped for pardon for their offences, might have been held to apply intentionally to the recently-executed King, the subdued Royalists, and the rising power of Cromwell, the virtual head, even then, of Great Britain. The exercise is a good example of the product of the schools which delighted in antitheses. The style is easy and natural, and the declamation, though not an example of the most finished Latinity, affords abundant proof of the scholarly attainments and ability of the author. At this time he was about 21 years old. In the course of that year he took the Bachelor's degree in Arts. His speech, however, seems to have given great umbrage. The young man who had the spirit to say bold things in public is not likely to have been silent in private. His enemies took their opportunity, and, according to his own statement, he was "accused as disaffected to the things then in being." Meanwhile, he appears to have made a claim to a Fellow's dividends. The books of Jesus College throw no light on the matter. His own words are:—

Whether my discourse of clemency procured me severity I cannot tell, but sure I am that soon after it was used towards me, for I was accused as disaffected to the things then in being and denied the profits of the Fellowship offered me, the head of the House and the new Fellows there, with the visitors' connivance, combining to make me *socius honorarius* only, though I was senior to them all but the head.

The visitors' register throws a flood of light on the condition of the College, but very little on the position of Charles Edwards. The new Fellows were in rebellion against the Principal, and the contest continued for years. There were charges and counter-charges laid before the visitors, and irregular appeals to the proper visitor of the College, the Earl of Pembroke, and to Cromwell in Council. At last, the Fellows took matters into their own hands and deposed the head. The charges against him were two-fold (1), dishonest appropriation of College funds for his own benefit, and (2) arbitrary, partial, and illegal proceedings in the government of the College, especially in the matter of elections. The action of the Fellows was over-ruled by the visitors. Whether Charles Edwards lost his Fellowship through Michael Roberts it is impossible to tell. Edwards's own statement involves the Head Fellows, and visitors. On March 27, 1651, the Fellows, at the hands of the visitors, scored a partial victory. But not a word was said about the alleged arbitrary, partial, and illegal proceeding in the matter of elections. In 1652 the master and Fellows obtained a perfectly just and equitable order, enabling them to diminish their own numbers as "places shall hereafter fall void." The reason for the order was the poverty of the College. The course ultimately taken was adverse to all equity. Edwards was expelled, his vested right to scholarship and Fellowship notwithstanding. He was not even allowed an opportunity for self-defence. But, still, the nature of the proceedings implies that he was too strong in the attachment of powerful friends to be altogether disregarded. He was made an Hon. Fellow. That honour has been enjoyed by few, though coveted by many. It is remarkable, as illustrative of the character of the man, that he never makes mention, except in his autobiography, of the Hon. Fellowship awarded him. The College remained in low water throughout the Interregnum. Michael Roberts, whose conduct is anything but free of suspicion, resigned the Principalship and retreated into obscurity. We shall

come across his name only once more. Under the moderate and wise rule of Dr John Owen, the University generally rallied, the students increased in number, and their tone improved, and it is recorded by Clarendon that when King Charles II. came back to his throne he found Oxford "abounding in excellent learning, and devoted to duty and obedience." The causes which resulted in the exceptional state of Jesus College were two-fold—(1) continued internal disturbances, and (2) the altered state of things in Wales, which will be explained hereafter.

Edwards seems to have lingered still a while at the University. He hoped, perhaps, that his friends who remained faithful to him would be able to obtain a Fellowship for him at some other College. The hope, if ever entertained, was vain.

To revert to the autobiography:—

Being thus left destitute of any encouragement in the University, after a while I went into the country to see my friends, who persuaded me to be there employed.

He certainly married either immediately before or after, most probably after, his settlement in Denbighshire. There is nothing in any papers which have come under my observation to identify his wife. The marriage was probably pleasing to all his friends, who once more came to his assistance and this time to his very great worldly advantage. The autobiography states:—

The *Sine cura* of Llanrhaidr, in the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, being vacant by death, was conferred on me,

The death to which he refers was the death of Dr. John Owen, Bishop of St. Asaph, which took place in 1661. The absence of all reference to the appointment in the books of the Council of State indicates pretty clearly that he was made rector before the date of the Protectorate, December, 1653. That, however, was the year of his preferment, for he had been seven years in possession when he was deprived in 1660, according to the autobiography. Llanrhaidr was the most valuable piece of preferment, probably without exception, in the Principality, and from the time of Henry VIII., I think, had been attached to the Bishopric of St. Asaph. The Bishop of St. Asaph tells me that in 1678, under a special Act of Parliament, the tithes of the parish were commuted at £1,396 16s 8d. In the absence of all evidence to the contrary, and from Edwards's reference to his direct dealings with the farmers, it may be assumed that he was in the enjoyment of the whole of the produce of the tithes as long as he remained in possession of the rectory. I have been unable to discover, not only the names of those to whose kind offices he was indebted, but by what authority the rectory was conferred upon him. As I have already stated, there is no reference to the preferment in the books of the Council of State, which contain the records, I think, of all ecclesiastical appointments after, but, I think, of none before Cromwell's assumption of the Protectorate. The patronage may have been in the Commissioners. For some reason or other, their books are not to be found among the public records in the charge of the Master of the Rolls. The parochial registers of Llanrhaidr, according to the present Vicar, contain no mention of his name. Edwards considered himself—why we cannot tell—as freed from the parish charge, devoting himself exclusively to evangelistic work. It may be certainly concluded that he was never ordained to the ministry of the Church of England. The date of the appointment was 1653. In his new position he was not left unmolested. There were, no doubt, many who felt sore because the rich *sine cura* of Llanrhaidr, for so many years devoted to the maintenance of the Bishop of St. Asaph, was now enjoyed by a man, who, in addition to his not having received Episcopal ordination, apparently held novel views.

He preached as an itinerant, catechised the children on the Sundays, and held monthly fasts on a week day in public and in private. He tells us :—

Some of the richer sort and others in that country that did not relish such things, but delighted more in natural recreations, company, compliments, and were addicted to be litigious, wrought me heavy troubles, who, hearing that the Regius Professor in Cambridge had a promise of some *sine cura*, invited him to make for mine.

He does not name the professor. During the Commonwealth the Chair of Regius Professor of Divinity was held by Dr Arrowsmith, who, on his resignation in 1655, was succeeded by Dr Anthony Tuckney, master of St. John's College. Of him Calamy states that he had the character of an eminently pious and learned man, a true friend, an indefatigable student, a candid disputant, and an earnest preacher of truth and godliness. At the Restoration he was deprived both of the Mastership of St. John's, and of the Regius Professorship. Now, in the Minutes of the Council of State for January 20, 1656-7, there is a notice of a petition by this eminently pious preacher of truth and godliness : " Dr Anthony Tuckney, Reader of Divinity in Cambridge, that Llanrhaiadr in Mochnant, Montgomeryshire and Denbighshire, be settled on him and his successors." The petition was referred to a committee, but there is no further mention of the matter in the minutes. Edwards, however, says that articles against him were presented to the Protector. The old charge of disaffection to the Government was made once more—with the addition that he was insufficient for the living he held. An order was issued requiring his attendance before the Council. One fact seems to imply that among his foes were some of the Parliamentary officials in Denbighshire, for he says that :—

The order was sent down (presumably for the purpose of service) to my accusers, who endeavoured to conceal it from me (in order) that I might be ousted upon contempt. They sent a fellow to my house that left word with my servant that I should be at London within three days, and said no more, neither left any order. Yet they drew an affidavit and got him to swear before a Master in Chancery that he left the order at my house.

Edwards's suspicions were aroused. He went post haste to the metropolis and applied for a copy of the accusation and time to prepare an answer. His reasonable requests were granted. On the hearing, the charge of disaffection was discredited by reason of collusion proved in the matter of the summons to appear. The charge of insufficiency was confuted by the approvers of public preachers and others. Both charges were dismissed, and Edwards returned in triumph to Denbighshire. I have not been able to gather where the trial took place. A search among the Chancery records might result in the discovery of all the particulars. His experience was by no means exceptional. In those times a very great number acted in the spirit of the couplet :—

Let him take who hath the power,
Let him keep who can.

He seems now to have been allowed some rest by his enemies, but " three years after " a second attempt seems to have been made to deprive him of his rectory. This time a man came down " with the Great Seal to claim the benefice." The date of the patent, apparently, was 1657. But the times were changing. Cromwell was dead. The feebleness of his son Richard gave heart to the Cavaliers and dismayed the Independents; and, perhaps unconsciously, the majority in the nation were preparing the way for the Restoration. In the confusion Edwards was able to retain his benefice a little longer. But the accession of Charles II. was the commencement of his real troubles. The Dean and Chapter of St. Asaph in October signified

to the King their election of Dr. George Griffith to the See void by the death of Dr. John Owen. The new bishop succeeded, however, to a *damnosa hereditas*. The revenue of the Bishopric had been small from the time of the Reformation, and, as a consequence, it had been found necessary, in order to add to the income, to allow the Bishop to hold certain livings, including Llanrhaiadr, in *commendam*. To make matters worse, the cathedral church which, during the interregnum, had been used as a shed for cattle, was now in ruins, and the Dean and Chapter had no means at their disposal for repairs. The Bishop seems to have felt himself in a difficulty, and apparently hesitated to apply for the most valuable part of the usual income of the Bishop of the Diocese. Perhaps the Dean exerted his influence on behalf of his old pupil, hoping that he might be left in possession of Llanrhaiadr until some other provision might be found for him. Somewhere about October—the date is not given in the State papers—the Bishop prayed the King's permission to hold, along with his Bishopric, the archdeaconry of St. Asaph and four small livings in *commendam*. Llanrhaiadr is not mentioned in that petition. The whole case, no doubt, would be stated to the Crown lawyers. The course proposed to be taken by the Bishop might cause future difficulties to himself and his successors. In the result a second petition was shortly afterwards presented to the King and this time for the Rectory of Llanrhaiadr among others. The dispensation was dated by the Archbishop of Canterbury on the 26th of October, 1660. Now let us turn to Edwards's account. " In the year 1660," he says,

About the end of winter, the Bishop of the Diocese, newly installed, sends word that he had my benefice granted him *in commendam* by the King, and demanded of my farmers the rents due for the summer foregoing when I took pains there and thereabout. For a time it seemed very harsh to me to be deprived of my livelihood and employment, and the more in regard I had obtained it fairly without misplacing any man, and paid yearly about £40 out of it to widows and fatherless, and had seven years' possession of it and his Majesty's proclamation to continue all in their possessions unless ejected by due course of law; neither was anything demanded of me by authority that I refused to do; for nothing was then required to be tendered to incumbents that I heard of but the Oath of Allegiance, which I took. Also for the rich man that had many flocks to take away an only lamb might grieve a prophet: notwithstanding, deeming a suit at law would be as bootless as vexatious, I did quietly sit down by the loss.

We hear nothing more about him for some years. He had probably saved a good deal of money from the income of his sinecure. Still, his expenses may have been considerable. He had been appointed a magistrate, and towards the close of the Protectorate he filled at least one other public office, and these appointments may have involved an addition to his annual expenditure. His enforced idleness during the next few years must have resulted in a serious diminution of his capital. According to his own words, he lived very privately, and as inoffensively as he could.

" For peace sake," he says, " I often went to hear the Conformists in public, and seldom joined in private worship with any greater number than the law allows of, and never meddled with any designs to disturb the Government."

These words have a significance which I have no time, scarce the wish indeed, to explain.

" Yet," he adds, " I could not avoid the frequent molestations of evil men."

His trials now became very bitter. In 1666 a troop of soldiers broke into his house at night. " One," to use the words of the narrative, " had his sword drawn. They thrust into the cellar, and got drunk on the beer." They called Edwards a traitor, and, with great violence, took him prisoner and carried him to the county gaol. His

release cost both time and money, and on his return home he seems to have found one of his children dead from fright. On these matters the Records of Denbighshire might throw some light. There were some who sympathized with him in his troubles, Mr Hugh Salisbury, owner of a name illustrious in the annals of the country, in commendatory verses prefixed to the latter editions of "Hanes y Ffydd," gave him a high religious character, and made a special reference to the slanderous reports in circulation :—

Duwlol wr, weddol ei waith—Hydda
Ni haeddai fleiniaeth,
Ys gwladwr, adwr odiaeth
Gedi rhodd i gadw'r iaeth.

We are now approaching another crisis in his life. His own pathetic words will describe the matter best :—

"Within a few months afterwards," he says, "my wife and some of my surviving children, being discouraged in their obedience to me by the many injuries they saw inflicted on me, became undutiful by the collusion of my persecutors, which did embitter my afflictions far more than any prison or danger I had been in or feared to come into. For several years I had comfort in them while I had sorrow from others; when it was tempestuous without doors I had a calm within; before the blows lighted on my clothes, but since in my bowels. But the worse my domestic troubles were on me the more vigorously they were fomented and increased by those that hated me. Some were employed to persuade my children that it was better for them to be without me, and my wife was so far alienated from me that she importuned me to part from her and live asunder, though for sixteen years before we had lived together as lovingly as any couple in that country."

The husband and wife separated by mutual consent, and he returned to Oxford some time in the course of the year 1666. His resources were now probably put to a severe strain through the operation of new, in addition to his pre-natal, settlements for the maintenance of his wife and children.

For the next four or five years he was busily employed on the work by which he is best known, "Hanes y Ffydd Diffuant." We may infer from a passage in Hugh Salisbury's poem, already quoted, that he had long contemplated the production of some work on the evidences of Christianity. Salisbury says :—

Diddanwch per, a chler i'r cla'—gwir gysur
A gweinydd i'r gwana;
Llwyn o ddyse yn llawn o dda,
Llafur ammod, yw'r Llyfr yma.

During the preceding 30 years the circumstances of Wales had undergone a change. There had been no ordination in Wales, so far as I know, between 1642 and 1660. Twenty years represented nearly a generation, and the death-rate amongst the clergy must have been greatly increased by circumstances of privation and poverty. In the natural course of things, a great many of the clergy had passed away before the accession of Charles II., and when at last Episcopacy was restored there was no supply of educated men prepared for ordination, for, as we have seen, young Welshmen had ceased to go to the Universities. The clergy in former times had been recruited from the ranks of the gentry, and the gentry and the clergy generally had sacrificed themselves and their estates in the interests of King and Crown. What little remained when the wars were over was carried off by the agents of the Commonwealth and of the Protector, in fines, compositions, and sequestrations. The consequences of the rebellion were much more intensely felt in Wales than in England. In England the parties were much more evenly balanced. In Wales the gentry, with few exceptions, shared the fortunes of the King, restoration alone excepted. For them, as we shall see, there was no restoration. The following tables, prepared from the State

papers, show approximately the number of delinquents' and malignants' estates dealt with in the thirteen counties. In some cases the same estate would come more than once under the hands of the Commissioners. On the other side there were many sequestrated estates, especially those which fell into the clutches of the agents between 1642 and 1649, which are not included in the enumeration.

NORTH WALES.

	First Series.	Second Series.	Totals.
Anglesey	12	6	18
Carnarvon	7	21	28
Denbigh	72	246	318
Flint	42	204	246
Merioneth	45	13	58
Montgomery	89	192	281
	267	682	949

SOUTH WALES.

	First Series.	Second Series.	Totals.
Brecknock	45	161	206
Cardigan	13	58	71
Carmarthen	93	128	161
Glamorgan	36	204	300
Pembroke	15	67	82
Radnor	32	49	81
	234	667	901
Monmouth	161	382	543

SUMMARY.

North Wales	949
South Wales	901
Monmouth	543

Grand total 2,393

The inference is irresistible that the Welsh gentry went down and were never able to lift their heads up again. Many appealed to the King for restitution of their estates. The petitions of the great houses, like those of Worcester and Powis, were successful, but Charles II., partly for reasons of policy, turned a deaf ear to those who could only plead their past faithful services to Charles I. and the Crown, and so the new possessors of the land continued to enjoy the patrimony of the crushed Cavaliers. These newly rich, however, did not inherit the educational prejudices of their predecessors. Their sons were not sent in anything like equal numbers to the great schools and universities. The Welsh Grammar Schools themselves became frequented less and less. The endowments in some cases were misappropriated; in some altogether lost. The schoolrooms crumbled into ruins, and at this moment the existing schools in many instances are inefficient on account of their bad state of repair and defective accommodation. The decay of learning resulted naturally in the general exclusion of Welshmen from high civil and ecclesiastical positions. For nearly 150 years after the accession of Queen Anne scarcely a native of North or of South Wales was raised to the Episcopal Bench. Some, including Judge Jones ("Essay on Dissent"), have attributed the neglect of the last century Welshmen to the enmity which English Prime Ministers, from Walpole down, are said to have entertained towards the Welsh on account of the tenacity with which they had clung to the cause of the House of Stuart. That theory is barely tenable. Walpole and his successors may have refused to prefer Welshmen, but it was not possible even for Walpole to destroy all traces of a race of learned religious ministers. It is remarkable that when the Welsh clergy ceased to occupy bishoprics they ceased also to produce books exhibiting marks of learning. In truth, the decay of learning among the Welsh clergy was apparent long before the days of Walpole. Nearly all the bishops and learned doctors of the seventeenth century had been edu-

cated before the middle of the century, and four-fifths of them at least were dead even before the Revolution of 1688. The destruction of the educated gentry and clergy of Wales may have been a necessary part of the cost of English liberty, but to this day the Principality has not recovered from the educational desolation of the great rebellion. The lamps of learning were extinguished. "Put out," says some one, "the light of learning in a district or country, and it is almost as hard to rekindle it as to restore the vital spark."

In very early times there were a few patriots, who attempted to stem the incoming tide of ignorance. Of these attempts Dr. Williams's library in London contains some record. In 1646 Richard Baxter, who was probably aware that the number of Welsh undergraduates at the Universities had been reduced almost to nothing, proposed to Mackworth the foundation of a College at Shrewsbury. In 1656 Major-General Berry, who had command in Wales, promised his assistance. The idea was revived by John Lewis of Glasgrug, and Dr. John Ellis of Dolgelly, and they communicated with Baxter. Lewis and Ellis hoped to be able to influence Vaughan of Llwydiarth, who was supposed to be without heirs to his estate of £4,000 per annum. Baxter knew in London a childless Shrewsbury man worth £40,000. Lewis turned his eyes towards the tithes and the revenues of the bishoprics, "which," he says, "are slipped into several private hands upon easy bargains, and I would Christianly entreat them and all others that have advanced their stores and fortunes by the late times, out of their abundance to part with some mites towards so pious and honourable a work." Ellis reflected, "We might have a castle for beginning of our edifice," and "the tenth of the benefices in Wales for permanent maintenance." Baxter did not doubt of obtaining "authority from the Protector and Parliament." But the childless Shrewsbury man worth £40,000, and Mr Vaughan of Llwydiarth, with his £4,000 a year and no heir, and the Protector and "all those others who had advanced their stores and fortunes by the late times" "were not inclined out of their abundance to part" even with "some mites" towards a work so pious and honourable, and they accordingly closed their purses. Edwards's suggestion in 1671 received no more encouragement than the propositions of Baxter, Ellis, and Lewis from fifteen to twenty-five years previously. Nevertheless, the attention of the charitable was directed to the condition of the very poor. In the first instance, efforts were made for a provision of religious books, including the Bible. Stephen Hughes pleaded earnestly with the gentry, encouraged by the experience of former times. At the cost, he says, of gentlemen of the country the work (of distributing the Scriptures) has been carried out thus far, and if not carried out by the gentry in the future there is no likelihood that the Bible will get among the Welsh as long as Wales remains Wales. By degrees the way was prepared for a systematic organisation for the establishment of Primary Schools as well as for publishing books. Assistance was sought among the wealthy in town and country. The facts are well known. The schools were established in all the great towns, and many thousands were instructed in them. But these schools were not on the wide and healthy basis characteristic of the schools of the preceding century. It is important to note the work begun in Wales. The idea probably originated with Charles Edwards, Stephen Hughes, Jones of Llangynwyd, and others. The active spirit for nearly ten years was Gouge. His death proved fatal to the good cause in Wales; but the educational wave, as it receded from Wales, acquired ever-increasing force, and flowed over all England. The record

is in "Strype's Stow, edition 1720." The subsequent history of the movement is the history of the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge and of the old Charity Schools of the kingdom, including the schools of the Society of Ancient Britons, which together paved the way for the systems of Griffith Jones of Llanddowror, of Charles of Bala, of the National, and of the British and Foreign School Societies. The premier honour undoubtedly belongs to the Principality.

There is nothing to show how long Charles Edwards remained in Oxford after the publication, in 1671, of "Hanes y Ffydd." He says that in 1675 he was in London busy with the printing of Welsh books. In that and the following year there appeared from his hands a number of works, including a curious list of Hebrew and Welsh words intended to prove the Hebraic origin of the Welsh language. To this last there is a Latin preface. The second edition of "Hanes y Ffydd" appeared in 1677; in the same year an edition of the Bible and of the Prayer Book; in 1682, "The Plain Pathway" and "Y Gwyddorion Naturlol;" in 1684, "The Book of the Resolution;" and in 1686, "Fatherly Instructions," and "Gildas Minimus."

The story, strange throughout, now assumes a still more extraordinary shape. He says that during the time he was engaged on the books issued in 1675 his life was endangered by poison. In 1677 there was a second attempt, he says, to poison him, and whilst he was ill from the effects of the poison his house was robbed.

And many times before and since I have found dangerous baits in my food and perilous traps and snares laid for me in my way.

"Gildas Minimus" and "Fatherly Instructions" were written apparently with the hope that he might thus reach the hearts of his enemies. The preface to "Fatherly Instructions" is a masterly piece of writing. The instructions themselves consist of translations from the Greek and Roman fathers. To the volume there were appended two letters—(1) "To the honoured persons in city and country that were lately trustees for charitable works in Wales"; (2) "To my kindred and acquaintance in the counties of Salop and Denbigh and elsewhere." To the trustees he acknowledges their good works, to which he himself had been subservient, and he refers to the ingratitude shown by some persons. He reminds his kindred of his long absence from them and his loving thoughts about them. He makes a reference to the Trust, and suggests a new organisation for the publishing of religious books. The communication to his friends met a kindly reception, apparently, for he returned to Denbighshire, where he took a farm. His happiness was not increased and his prospects were not improved by the change. The words of the autobiography are—

Having been in London a long while, I had a desire to see my country, and, therefore, took a farm there, intending thereby to be helpful to the remainder of my children these last years, and, though I thought to live below the weather, yet malice wrought against me strangely there by killing or stealing my cattle in the night, and throwing open my corn and grass to be eaten up, and sometimes turning my cattle to other grounds that they might be killed or pounded; yea, stigmatised falcons were brought to a court, there to swear falsely against me, and the best of my beasts were presently driven away by a *Levari*, though I owed nothing to the party that procured it, neither should I be permitted to make any defence to evidence the truth, and, being so many ways and so greatly damned, I was forced to remove thence.

How long he remained in Wales it is impossible to tell. From Wales he returned to London. The next thing known of him is the publication of the autobiography in 1691. In the meanwhile good books continued to pour

into Wales through the industry of Stephen Hughes and the liberality of unknown benefactors. Stephen Hughes, unfortunately, died in 1688, whilst a new edition of the Bible was passing through the press, but, it would seem, not under the charge of Edwards. There seems to have been an estrangement between the two by this time. After Hughes's death the work of supervision was committed to the charge of Mr D. Jones, who, in 1662, had been ejected from the Church of Llantillio, near Narbeth.

The autobiography implies that Edwards was now deserted, not by Stephen Hughes only, but by almost everybody.

"Since," he says, "my troubles grew extreme. I could have but few to join me in prayer." * * "I saw for certain that most of the world about me was against me; great and small, friends and foes, professors and profane, relations and strangers: some reproaching me to the world and accusing me to men in power; some robbing and defrauding me of my estate; some tempting me to uncleanness, others poisoning my body; some writing, others preaching against me; and such ordinances were mounted in many pulpits as were levelled at me, not to edify, but to batter down my spiritual comforts; and I should hear terrifying voices, not from black clouds only, but from bright ones also; inasmuch that such as knew my integrity durst not own me, but were afraid to comfort with me; and seeing me set up as a mark for all to shoot at with their venomous arrows, they were cautious of coming near me lest they should be hit also."

Who were the persons who wrote, the clergy who preached against him? We have seen that in Denbighshire legal process had been issued against him for debt. Had that circumstance been magnified so as to take a criminal colour? The fact that he was not allowed to give evidence in self-defence may have resulted from a sentence of excommunication. The man against whom so much was said, written, and preached must have occupied a prominent position. He claims to have been in perfect ignorance of the cause of the treatment he received. He called on his traducers to justify themselves. Occasionally he seems to have complained to the justices, but at last he concluded that if it would be "imprudent in a Hercules to engage against two persons" it would "surely be so for 'him' to assault legions." What is the meaning of all this? Had the patriot, grown prematurely old—he was now only 63—brooded over his misfortunes till his mind had given way? There are two points to note. There is nothing very strange about the first part of the story as times went. The story becomes extraordinary only towards the close. For obvious reasons, a man in Edwards's circumstances, if inclined to exaggeration, would exaggerate most in respect of the wrongs of the distant past rather than of those of more recent years. A lunatic's story might be expected to be equally strange in all its parts. The autobiography was a public challenge. Had Edwards been a worthless character the challenge would have been answered. On the condition of his mind the references to supernatural interpositions prove nothing. In this respect the story is not nearly so extravagant as that of Vavasor Powel. Peter du Moulin, at the instance of the Hon. Robert Boyle, translated into English, and Stephen Hughes into Welsh, an account of the appearance of an unclean spirit in France, and the alleged visitation was used by both translators in proof of the immortality of the soul. Sir Matthew Hale condemned two wretched women to death as witches. The belief in ghosts was almost universal in that age. The worst that can be said of Charles Edwards is that perhaps he was more superstitious than some; he was, on the other hand, less so than many others who, nevertheless, throughout the ages have been accounted men of sober minds and of unimpaired judgment. The silence of his contemporaries in respect of him is marvellous. For years he was the mouthpiece of

that body of men who were banded together for the good of Wales. The addresses to the readers prefixed to many of their books are signed by him, and they are all of them models of what such productions should be—brief, pointed, appropriate, business-like. He speaks in his own name, and as a man having authority. In "The Word to Sinners," published in 1675, he drew attention to the fact that many South Welsh words were not understood in the North, and North Welsh words in the South. To meet the difficulty he suggested the publication of a glossary. The proof sheets passed through the hands of Stephen Hughes, who at once acted on the hint and produced a small Welsh dictionary, appended to the very volume which contained the suggestion. Edwards's anxiety to ensure perfect accuracy is manifest on every page of every book issued under his care. He not only attended to the small details of orthography, but also compared the translations, when not his own work, with the original texts. Every book he issued (the autobiography, perhaps, excepted) attests the soundness of his judgment, as well as his conscientious devotion to his duty as corrector of the press. Nearly every Welsh book of the time edited by others contains a multitude of printer's errors. This remark applies even to Stephen Hughes's Bible, 1689, as well as to the Bible known to Welsh scholars as Bishop Lloyd's, published at Oxford in 1690. Then, why the silence of his contemporaries? Walker gives his name only under All Souls'. The only reference to him in the "Athenæ Oxoniensis" is in connection with Bishop Richard Davies's epistle to the Welsh, which Wood says "was printed among other things and published by Charles Edwards, a Welshman." His name is not to be found in the lists of Nonconformist preachers in Denbighshire after the Restoration, nor in the lists of those who, by official permission, opened their houses for Nonconformist public worship; nor yet in Mr Henry Maurice's list, preserved among the "Broadmead Records" in Bristol. It is not even mentioned by Richard Baxter, to whose labours Wales is indebted for the names of the ministers ejected under the provisions of the Act of Uniformity, 1662. Baxter must have been aware of the existence of "Hanes y Ffydd." He was, moreover, one of the trustees for charitable works in Wales, and in that capacity was in some senses Edwards's employer, as well as fellow-labourer. Is it conceivable that he forgot the existence and work of a man who had done so much for the Principality? It may be taken for granted that Edwards sent to Baxter a copy of 'The Autobiography.' Baxter spoke in strong terms of the shortcomings of some of the Welsh ejected ministers of 1662. Why not even a censure on Charles Edwards? Further, Edwards alleged that some men wrote against him and that others preached against him. At the British Museum I have examined, I think, all the books, pamphlets, and sermons written by the Welshmen of the period, and I have not been able to discover a single reference to him in book, pamphlet, or sermon. If there is no praise, there is no censure. Some bard, indeed, about 1680, wrote in his favour 24 lines of very small merit. The lines end with:—

Iechyd, i'f fywyd, i y fo;
Dwy, a feld bob hedd, a'f gadwo.
Bendith hyd nef, hoyw-dref, fro
Gain lann lawen, a'f ganlyno.

Are we to assume that the wrongs of which he complains and Baxter's conduct were due to religious prejudice or the persecuting spirit which distinguished almost all parties and sects alike in that age. Edwards's views did not square with the opinions probably of any of the religious parties of his day. He seems to have been an admixture of High Churchman, Wesleyan Methodist, and

Quaker; and yet to the close of his life he regretted his expulsion from the rich rectory of Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochant. He asks for universal toleration.

It would prove a beneficial indulgence if the languid spirits of the several forms of our religion should be so revived as to be able to divert or overcome those strong judgments that our irreligion is like to bring upon us.

At one period of his life he may have made himself obnoxious on political, in addition to religious, grounds. As one of the Committee of Public Faith in North Wales, he was charged with the duty of dealing with official defaulters in money matters. There was abundant scope for his efforts. The Treasury in London was paralysed through the dishonesty of the agents of the State. The Commissioners of Sequestrations in Wales were removed in whole bodies from time to time. It has been calculated that not 25 per cent. of the fines were paid into the Treasury. The Commissioners sold and let the lands to themselves. There were reproofs from above, followed by prohibition; then the Commissioners (honest folk!) sold and let to their friends. At length an Act of Grace was passed for Wales, because, it has been said, the authorities could do nothing with the Commissioners. The State papers which deal with these Commissioners would take years to study and fully master. The enmity of which Charles Edwards complains may be traceable, partly to his connection with the Commissioners of the Public Faith, and partly, probably, to the peculiarities of his religious belief. Of his ultimate position he says:—

I can be content when I consider how stormy, tossing, and sinful the world hath been ever since I was concerned to manage anything in it, making it difficult, or impossible, for scholars to obtain preferment and keeping it during life without doing and saying, if not swearing, contradictories, using of flatteries, and many questionable practices.

Still a mystery remains—how came this man, the object of so much malevolence, to be the mouthpiece of a body of gentlemen who comprised among their number Tillotson and Stillingfleet, Richard Baxter, Stephen Hughes, and Jones of Llangynydd? Had he friends? They stood aloof from him; his relations, his wife, his children, kindred, and acquaintances, all leagued, according to his story, against his character, estate, and life. In his last days he seems to have eked out a precarious living as a bookseller, for, in "Fatherly Instructions" he says that "British books are to be had with the publisher hereof." As the book was issued without a publisher's name, the publisher was Edwards himself. "Gildas Minimus" is only a tract in point of size, yet it was issued in two parts—the probability is that the author was not only a bookseller, but also a printer in a small way. At the close of the autobiography, also issued without name of printer or publisher, the public was informed, "The writer hereof hath many British and English books by him to sell." The date of his death is not known, but, as I cannot find any trace of him after 1691, I am inclined to think that he died in or about that year. To his merits posterity has done the justice denied him in his lifetime. In the future new facts concerning him may, indeed, come to light among the records of the Chancery and the counties of North Wales. The whole story of his life, tarnished it may be with inconsistencies, may be laid bare, but "Hanes y Ffydd" and the works which Edwards accomplished between 1671 and 1691 will secure for him a high and permanent position in the roll of the Worthies of Wales.

Professor POWEL, in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer, acknowledged that he, to a very great extent, was responsible for the length of the paper. Mr. James had made a special study of the subject, and he (the speaker) had encouraged him to make full use of his materials.

The man, Charles Edwards, and the period in which he lived, were to his mind very important ones. In England, after what some people called the Great Rebellion, things reverted very much to their former state. This was not the case with Wales. From that period may be said to have dated Welsh modern history. Much too little is known of the beginnings of that history—more opinions than facts float about with regard to it. Whatever new facts may be discovered, it cannot but be that opinions will vary as to Charles and as to Cromwell. But the crying necessity is to ascertain the facts, be they what they may. Hitherto the efforts in this direction have been most inadequate. Dr. Rees, in his History of Nonconformity in Wales, did a good work to the best of his ability. The history of the period in another direction has been happily treated by Mr. Roland Phillips in his History of the Civil War in Wales and the Marches, the next edition of which he hoped would be given to us in full as in the original issue.

Dr. ISAMBARD OWEN, M.A., seconded the vote of thanks, and expressed his satisfaction at hearing another portion of Welsh history treated in so complete and comprehensive a manner. It was most important that Welsh history should be written and studied. At present we had some admirable fragments. The day was not far distant he hoped when they would be welded into a comprehensive whole. It was most interesting to learn from Mr. James's paper the high position of Wales at one time in intellectual matters, and to know the circumstances which reduced her to a state of darkness and ignorance; how the troubles of the Civil War, the ingratitude of the Stuarts, and the cold neglect of the Hanoverians, had turned Milton's noble nation, proud in arms, into the Wales of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Mr. Ivor James had conclusively shown that in educational facilities the Wales of the 17th century was far in advance of the Wales of the 19th century. This was one of the morals of English history. English Governments showed a lamentable blindness in striving to repress the Welsh people and the Welsh language, and so depriving the general stock of the power which might have been added thereto. No attempt was made to re-illumine the lamp of learning in Wales when it had all but gone out. It remained with us of the present day to carry this out, and to re-establish the departed learning of the Principality.

The vote of thanks was carried unanimously.

Mr. ROLAND PHILLIPS, referring to the charge that Welsh historians had taken too gloomy a view, stated that the picture was undoubtedly a true one, but that it referred to a somewhat earlier period than the time Mr. Ivor James referred to. And, although Welshmen did well at the English Universities, as Mr. James pointed out, it was to be remembered that, with the exception of the schools at Ruthin and Oswestry and Bishop Gore's School at Swansea, there were no institutions where the poor could be educated at all. Wales was extremely rich at the time, and the sons of the gentry were sent up to the English Colleges; but up to the time of Charles there had been but little advance in education. There are numbers of petitions to the Long Parliament appealing for the application of certain Church Funds towards education; most of these were signed with a × only. Two causes led to some improvement. The clergy were turned out of their livings and took to imparting education as a means of support—and the funds of the sequestered livings were applied to the support of schools. When the Stuarts returned to power much of this was undone, greatly to the disadvantage of the country educationally, and when the abominable policy of suppressing the Welsh language, and, as much as possible, the Welsh people, was

entered upon and persevered in, the spirit of Wales was to a great extent crushed. The result was a darkness from which they were only beginning to emerge. Insistence on their rights had brought the Welsh people nearer what was their due—perseverance in this insistence would enable them to realize it.

Mr IVOR JAMES, commenting upon Mr Phillips's criticism, said there were other schools besides those mentioned, but most of them were of a more recent date than the period to which Mr Phillips referred. With regard to the attempted suppression of the Welsh language, he pointed out that more English was spoken in Wales at the beginning of the 17th century than at the present day. All the writers of the period, excepting Morgan Llwyd o Wynedd, wrote then in the English language.

Dr. OWEN, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, referred to the editorial services of Professor Powel as having raised the Transactions of the Society to a high standing, and to his philological acquirements as having raised the credit of Welsh philological science throughout the Universities of Europe.

Mr ALFRED THOMAS, M.P., seconded the motion, and spoke of the distinguished position held by Professor Powel at the University College of South Wales.

The vote was carried with acclamation.

APRIL 28, 1886.

NOTES.

GRAVE STONES IN LLANWDDYN CHURCH-YARD.—Perhaps it is worth while preserving the following inscriptions of grave stones in Llanwddyn Churchyard, particularly as shortly it will be under the lake that is being formed into a reservoir to supply Liverpool with water. There are but few stones in the churchyard of any value in a literary point of view, but it strikes an outsider that it is singular that English should be on so many of these rustic records of the dead when the whole district is entirely Welsh, and the people are unable to speak English. There are, it is true, Welsh inscriptions and a few Welsh stanzas, but they are not remarkable as englynion. The oldest stone in the churchyard is under an old yew tree. It is a rough huge stone. The inscription on it is as follows:—

Here lyeth
the body of

Thomas

Owens gent,
who depar-
ted this
life The
11th day of

May 1677

Aged 40.

The letters are spread across the stone. Another stone has on it these words:—

Here

lieth the Body of

Lewis Jones, who depd. this life

June 8th 1789 Aged 77

In hope of a joyful Resurrection.

This God that left our comforts high

Or sinks them in the grave

For ever blessed be his name

He takes but what he gave.

If my memory does not serve me false, I noticed these lines on other stones in the churchyard at Llanwddyn.

E. O.

WELSH DOMESTIC FOOLS.—Prior to the discontinuance of the practice of keeping domestic fools, it is stated that Lord Chancellor Talbot kept a Welsh fool, named Rees Pengelding. Sir Edward Stradling, of St. Donat's Castle, Glamorganshire, about the commencement of the last century, kept one also, Will the Tabner, a man (as was often the case with these degraded beings) of strong intellect. Lord Bussy Mansel, of Margam, had likewise in his service a Welsh fool, named Robin Bush, an idiot, but one who often said very witty things. M. Douce in his dissertation on the Clowns and Fools of Shakspeare, says, "There are people now (1807) alive in Wales or lately were, who well remembered him" (Robin Bush).

Oswestry.

VERAX.

THE MUSICAL SIR WATKIN.—On the west wall of South Transept of Westminster Abbey, immediately over the monument of Handel in Poets' Corner, is a tablet with the following inscription:—

Within these sacred walls the memory of Handel was celebrated under the patronage and in the presence of his most Gracious Majesty George the 3rd, on the 26 and 29 of May, and on the 3rd and 5th of June, 1784, the musick performed on this solmity was selected from his own works, under the direction of

Brownlow, Earl of Exeter

John, Earl of Sandwich

Henry, Earl of Uxbridge

Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart.

Sir Richard Jebb, Bart.

The band, consisting of 525 vocal and instrumental performers, was conducted by Joah Bates, Esqre. W.S.M.

ANCIENT FUNERALS. (Apr. 21, 1886).—RATES OF FUNERAL WORK.

10 Escochon on taffety	3 6 8
4 doz. of Escoch: on Buckram ..	8 0 0
Standard	4 10 0
Penon	3 0 0
Gwydon	3 0 0
Square Ban'er	6 0 0
4 Small Penons	6 0 0
Sword	1 0 0
Spurrs	0 10 0
Gauntletts	0 10 0
Shield	0 10 0
Motto	0 5 0
Helmett & Crest	3 10 0
Coate of Armes	3 0 0
2 Hatchments over the Gates ..	5 0 0
2 Escochions in compartments ..	1 6 8
60 Pencills for Poore	3 0 0

£52 8 4

PEARMAN.

QUERIES.

TOWNSHIPS OF BRYNBEDWIN AND GRAIG, KERRY.—The Abbot and Monks of Strata Florida before the dissolution had some land in these Townships, or in one of them. Is there any tradition known in the neighbourhood in connection therewith, or any fields with names indicating traces of such ownership? Is there any land tithe free in either Township? PEARMAN.

REPLIES.

OFFA'S DYKE (Mar. 31, 1886).—I cannot say anything respecting the remains of *Watch Towers*, but there are distinct remains of small fortresses or camps, forming part of the line of defence on the Welsh side, in Clun Forest, between Mainstree and Newcastle, 2 or 3 miles south of the former place. From one of these I was driven away by a terrific thunderstorm some four or five years ago when I was intending to sketch or *plot* it out.

YFED-DWFR.

CURRENT NOTES.

THE Cuckoo was heard at Cefn Canol on Good Friday, and at Moreton on Saturday.

MR. PRYCE JONES, M.P.—The "Primrose number" of the *St. Stephen's Review* contains a portrait of Mr Pryce Jones, M.P. for the Montgomery Boroughs, and an account of his career.

Messrs Jas. Dickson and Sons, Chester, show a Sir Watkin Narcissus than which, the *Gardeners' Chronicle* says, it would be difficult to discover a variety of greater beauty. The yellow of the corona is very rich, and the flower is of the largest size.

The death is announced of a well-known Welsh preacher of the old school, the Rev. Griffith Jones, of Tregarth. Mr Jones was in his 77th year. He was ordained in 1841, and had preached 54 years. In 1847 he received a call from Carno Church, in Montgomeryshire, but he refused to leave Tregarth for Carno. In 1875 he was called to the pastorate in his own native place, the Church worshipping at Penygroes giving him a unanimous call. The late Mr Jones was widely and deservedly known as a popular preacher, and his quaint humour had rendered his name acceptable to all the Calvinistic Methodist congregations of North Wales. The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon, in the graveyard attached to the church of Gelli, a small hamlet about midway between Bangor and Bethesda, and was attended by a large number of ministers.

There has been erected over the late Bishop Jacobson's tomb at Chester Cemetery, a simple but elegant memorial, consisting of a pierced cross rising from an octagonal shaft, and massive octagonal base. The monument is of best-selected red Mansfield stone, the shaft rising fully twenty feet from the ground level, and is from a design by Mr E. C. Kemp, architect, of London. A memorial has also been placed over the grave in the Cathedral Cloisters, containing the remains of the late lamented Dean and Mrs. Howson. The memorial consists of a floriated and raised Latin cross on a horizontal best-selected red Mansfield stone, narrowing towards the foot. The stone has, in raised letters on a sunk panel, running round, in mediæval characters on the chamfer, the inscription—HIC : JACENT JOHANNES S HOWSON : E : T : P : PER XVII ANNOS DECANUS : ET MARIA EJUS UXOR. MORTUI SIMUL : SIMUL SUNT SEPULTI : MENSE DECEMBRI : A : S : MDCCCLXXXV. At the head and foot are Greek legends of which the following is a translation :—"Faithful unto death;" "Succourer of many." The slab is imposed on a base of blue Pennant stone, after the manner of an ancient Abbot's tomb, many examples of which lie scattered about in the cloisters of the venerable building. This memorial was designed by Mr A. W. Blomfield, of London, the Cathedral architect.

We extract the following from "Leaves from our Early Issues," published by the *North Wales Chronicle* (February 20, 1817, to May 1, 1817) :—On the 4th inst., by special licence at St. James's Church, London, by the Lord Bishop

of Worcester, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., to Lady Harriet Clive, eldest daughter of the Earl of Powis. Immediately after the ceremony the happy pair set off for Wynnstay. Every expression of joy on this auspicious event, every testimony of respect and esteem for these distinguished families, have been manifested at Wrexham, at Denbigh, and, in short, throughout the Principality.—On the 6th inst. at Trawsfynydd, Merionethshire, at the astonishing age of 110 years, Edmund Morgan, being, we believe, the oldest inhabitant of Wales; he retained his faculties to the hour of his death; his funeral was attended by his three sons, one daughter, twenty-three grand-children, ten great grand-children, and five great-great-grand-children, and upwards of seven hundred inhabitants of that and the adjoining parishes.—Lately at Cemmaes, in the parish of Llanbadrig, in the county of Anglesey, Mary Zebulon; she was 105 years of age, and took an immense quantity of snuff to the last period of her life.—Sir Watkin and Lady Williams Wynn arrived at Wynnstay on Monday se'nnight. At all the towns through which they passed in Shropshire and Wales the bells immediately were rung, and the happy pair were greeted with every demonstration of joy.

MAY 5, 1886.

NOTES.

RILL.—In May, 1821, an Oswestry newspaper announced the death of Dr. Robert Jones of Denbigh, who had "retired to Rill, in the neighbourhood of St. Asaph, to enjoy the benefit of sea bathing." G.G.

THE HARVEST OF 1821.—The following advertisement appeared at the time :—"Wynnstay, Aug. 7, 1821. In consequence of the Corn Harvest being so very late, there will not be an Agricultural Meeting at Wynnstay this season." G.G.

THE MANORS OF RWEK, GLYNDORE, &c.—LICENSE OF ALIENATION.—A license of Alienation in consideration of 3s 4d enabling Robert Salisburie, Esq., to convey to Hugh ap Robert Salisburie and his lawful issue, in default to the said Robert Salisburie his heirs and assigns for ever, the Manors of Rwek and Glyndore in the County of Merioneth, Dynmele (Denbigh) in North Wales, held of the prince of Wales by Knight's service Granted at Westminster 27 June 1 Edw VI. (*Ex Calendar of Patent Rolls, Vol. I., Edw. VI., 1547-8.*) MERLIN.

A LEGEND OF MIDDLE.—In 1790, one Thomas Elkes of Middle, Shropshire, being guardian to his eldest brother's child, who was young, and stood in his way to a considerable estate, hired a poor boy to entice him into a cornfield to gather flowers, and, meeting them, sent the poor boy home, took his nephew in his arms and carried him to a pond at the other end of the field, into which he put the child and left him. The child being missed, and inquiry made after him, Elkes fled and took the road to London. The neighbours sent some horsemen in pursuit of him, who, passing along the road near South Mims, Hertfordshire, saw two ravens sitting on a cock of hay, making an unusual noise and pulling the hay about with their beaks, on which they went to the place and found Elkes asleep under the hay. He said that these

two ravens had followed him from the time he committed the murder. He was conveyed to Shrewsbury, tried, condemned, and hung in chains on Knockin Heath. Oswestry. VERAX.

QUERIES.

WILD SWANS IN WALES (Mar. 31, 1886).—I see from the note on "Llyn Dulyn," that Wild Swans were common in Wales in 1805. Are they ever seen now? Or, if not, how long have they been extinct? W.O.

REPLIES.

SPYTTY (Apr. 21, 1886), is the Welsh form of hospitium, hospice, properly and fully written Ysptyty. In the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, 4th series, No 31, the compiler of Celtic Remains gives the following:—"Ysptyty Ieuan (near Pentrevoelas.) There are several places of this name where the Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem resided, the Church of Rome's militia. In the deanery of Rhos, in Denbighshire, a church and parish. Ysptyty Cynvyn; Ysptyty ar Ystwyth; Ysptyty Ystrad Meyrig. *Vulgo Spitty.*" YFED-DWFR.

CURRENT NOTES.

St. David's church, Carmarthen, was re-opened after restoration, by the Bishop of the Diocese, on Thursday.

The address delivered by the Right Hon. G. Osborne Morgan, M.P., at the Liverpool Institute in December last has been reprinted as a pamphlet, with the title of "Liberal Education, Past and Present: A Retrospect and a Contrast."

Following a day of unusual heat for this time of year there was a heavy fall of snow in many parts of North Wales, Shropshire, and Cheshire, on Wednesday night, April 28, lasting several hours, and the following morning a great part of the country was seen to be covered with snow.

The 700 Welsh families from the coal regions of Pennsylvania, who some time ago sent an agent to examine into the inducements the North-west offers to immigrants, have decided to settle in Eastern Washington Territory, between Sprague and the Big Bend country. The agents' report was very favourable. The 700 families number, all told, 3,000 persons.

Last week the Bishop of St. David's re-opened the interesting parish church of Llanddewibrefi after the restoration of the chancel and other portions of the structure. The village is situated at Pontllanio, about three miles below Tregaron. It lies in a beautiful and fertile valley. The church stands on a knoll on the side of the river, said by tradition to have risen under the feet of St. David in order that he might command the multitude when preaching against the Pelegian heresy in days of yore. It is a prominent feature in the landscape, and has a very fine background of craggy and wood-crowned hills.

An interesting curiosity—the old Welsh Bible of the renowned Rowlands of Llangethio—has fallen into the hands of Mr C. Wilkins, Merthyr. It is in black letter, is dated 1620, and, like most copies of that scarce edition in existence, lacks the title-page to the Old Testament. The title-page to the New Testament is intact, and is remarkable for those vagaries of the woodcutter's art which characterised the early part of the seventeenth century.

At the foot a lion rampant with protruded tongue bears a crown, which, made to fit like a cap, gives the creature a ludicrous appearance, especially as he is looking around the corner to catch a glimpse of a smiling unicorn. Immediately preceding this leaf is one bearing the bold hand-writing of "Daniel Rowlands, 1754." The Bible also bears the endorsement, written by one of the leading Calvinistic Methodist ministers of Cardiganshire, "Hen Feibl y Farch Daniel Rowlands, Llangethio."

THE LORD-LIEUTENANCY OF CARNARVONSHIRE.—The Queen has been pleased to approve of the appointment of Mr J. E. Greaves of Bron Eifion, Cricieth, as Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Carnarvon, in the room of the late Lord Penrhyn. Mr Greaves is the owner of one of the largest slate quarries in the Festiniog district, and took an active interest in the late contest in Merionethshire on behalf of the Liberal candidate. Although not a Welshman by birth, he is said to be a proficient in the Welsh tongue.

ELLESMERE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY AND FIELD CLUB.—On Friday evening a meeting was held in the Boys' National School, Ellesmere, for the purpose of forming a Natural History Society for this town and neighbourhood. Present—The Rev J Peake (in the chair), the Rev O M Feilden, Miss Peake, Miss M Jebb, Church-street, Messrs A T Akeroyd, W J E Peake, J Cornish, J A S Jennings, and W Read.—The Chairman opened the proceedings, and pointed out that Ellesmere was a good district for entomology and botany, and eventually a museum might be formed in Ellesmere, entirely devoted to the produce of the neighbourhood.—After a short discussion, Mr Akeroyd proposed, and Mr W J E Peake seconded, that a Natural History Society and Field Club be formed for the neighbourhood, and that its principal object be to develop the resources of the neighbourhood.—It was proposed that Mr B R C Tower be asked to become president, and Mr S K Mainwaring and Mr A T Jebb vice-presidents.—The following ladies and gentlemen were elected on the committee:—The President and Vice-presidents, Miss Peake, Miss M Jebb, the Rev O M Feilden, the Rev J Peake, Mr W J E Peake, Mr J Cornish, Mr A T Akeroyd, Mr J A S Jennings, and Mr W Read.—The Rev J H Wilcox and the Rev H Moody are to be asked to become members.—Mr J A S Jennings was appointed hon. secretary and treasurer, and the subscription, on the motion of the Rev Mr Feilden, seconded by the Rev J Peake, was fixed at 6d per annum.—Mr Feilden proposed, weather permitting, that the first Saturdays in May, June, July, and September, and the first Monday in August be fixed for meetings of the Society, for the purpose of making excursions in the neighbourhood.—This was carried unanimously.—The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.—On Saturday last the Rev O M Feilden, Messrs A T Akeroyd, W J E Peake, W J Ogg, and the Hon. Secretary (Mr J A S Jennings), inaugurated the Field Club by taking the first excursion, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent, the members proceeding down the canal to Colemere Woods, and afterwards through Welshampton Moss. Some interesting botanical specimens were found and brought home, which will probably form a nucleus of the collection to be made during the summer.

MAY 12, 1886.

NOTES.

THE LADIES OF LLANGOLLEN.—As a supplement to the "Accompt of the Ladies of Llangollen" lately given in *Bye-Gones* (1885), the following may be interesting:—The *Cambrian Quarterly Magazine* for July, 1829, states, on the authority of the Comtesse de Genlis, that while she was staying at Bury St. Edmunds, accompanied by Mademoiselle d'Orleans (the sister of the then Duke), she met Lord Castlereagh, afterwards the Marquis of Londonderry; and having observed, in the course of conversation, that she would willingly travel a long journey for the sake of seeing two persons who had

been long united by a sincere bond of friendship, "Then, madam," said he, "you should go to Llangollen, where you will see a model of perfect friendship;" and at the Comtesse's request he related as follows:—

"Lady Eleanor Butler (then 1788), about twenty-eight years of age, was born in Dublin: an orphan from the cradle, and a rich, amiable, and lovely heiress: her hand was sought by persons of the best families in Ireland, but she very early announced her repugnance to marriage. This taste for independence she never concealed, yet no woman was ever more remarkable for mildness, modesty, and all the virtues that embellish her sex. From early infancy she was the intimate friend of Miss Ponsonby: by a singular coincidence of events (which struck their imaginations) they were both born at Dublin, in the same year, and on the same day, and they became orphans at the same period.* It was easy for them to fancy from this, that heaven had created them for each other, to perform together the voyage of life; their sensibility enabled them to realize this illusion. Their friendship so increased with their age, that at seventeen, they mutually promised to preserve their liberty, and never to part from each other. They formed from that moment the plan of withdrawing from the world, and affixing themselves for ever in the profoundest solitude. Having heard of the charming landscapes of Wales, they made a secret journey thither, in order to choose the place of retreat. They arrived at Llangollen, and there found, on the side of a mountain, a little isolated cottage, of which the situation seemed to them delicious; there it was that they resolved to fix their abode. The guardians of the young fugitives, however, traced their steps, and brought them back to Dublin. They declared that they would return to their mountain, as soon as they should have attained their majority. In fact, at twenty-one, in spite of all the entreaties and the arguments of their relatives, they quitted Ireland for ever, and went to Llangollen. Miss Ponsonby was not rich, but Lady Eleanor possessed a considerable fortune; she purchased the little cottage of the peasants, and the land about the mountain, and built a house upon its site, of which the outside is extremely simple, but the interior of the greatest elegance. The two friends still possessed, at the foot of the hill, a meadow for their flocks, a beautiful farm-house, and a kitchen garden. These two extraordinary persons, both of whom possessed the most cultivated minds, and the most charming accomplishments, have lived in that solitude for seven years (1788) without having slept out of it in a single instance. Nevertheless, they are far from being reserved; they frequently pay visits at the neighbouring gentlemen's houses, and receive, with equal politeness and kindness, travellers, who are either coming from or going to Ireland, and who are recommended to their attention by their old friends."

Madame and her protégée, the young princess, undertook the journey to Llangollen, and they were received with grace and cordiality. She saw nothing in them of that vanity which is gratified by awakening the astonishment of others; they loved each other, and lived in that spot with so much simplicity, that wonder

soon subsided into a touching interest; everything genuine and natural in their manners and conversation. They possessed an excellent library of the best English, French, and Italian authors, which afforded them an inexhaustible source of amusement. The interior of the house was remarkable for the beauty of its proportions, the convenient distribution of the apartments, the elegance of the ornaments and the furniture, and the beautiful views which were visible from all the windows. The drawing room was adorned with charming landscapes, drawn and painted after nature by Miss Ponsonby. Lady Eleanor was a very good musician, and both had filled their solitary dwelling with embroidery, of which the work was extraordinary. The arts were cultivated with equal success and modesty, and you admired their productions in this secluded spot with a feeling which you could not experience elsewhere. You were delighted to find, in that peaceful retreat, so much merit, sheltered from the attacks of satire and of envy, and talents; that, free from ostentation and pride, never desired, in that spot, other suffrages than those of friendship.

Lady Eleanor Butler died on June 2nd, 1829. Numbers attended the interment of their beloved benefactor, and with tears and lamentations consigned her remains to the same tomb, in which, some years previously, had been deposited those of a faithful servant and friend.

In religion one of these ladies was a Protestant, and the other a Roman Catholic. They avoided disagreement by not mentioning to one another the points in difference.

J. T.

QUERIES.

RANDLE HOLME.—Will the correspondents, who has supplied the accounts of Old Funerals tell the readers of *Bye-Gones* something about Randle Holme?

W. O.

REPLIES.

SPYTTY (April 21, 1886). — I recollect once walking over the hills above Barmouth with an intelligent Welshman, who called my attention, if my memory has not served me false, to one or two ruined buildings, which he said were used to shelter the people in old days passing over the hills. Not far away there was an ancient well, to which people resorted from miles round. Possibly the well and the "hospices" had some connection. The whole subject is full of interest, and I wish someone would investigate it.

W. O.

CURRENT NOTES.

Last week Dr. Edgar Jones, Mayor of Cardiff, turned the first sod of the new series of great water-works to be constructed in the Taff Valley, near Brecon Beacons, at a total cost of more than £300,000.

The Right Hon. Sir Harry Verney, Bart., and Captain Verney, R.N., M.P., were on the platform at the annual meeting of the Bible Society at Exeter Hall last week. The Earl of Harrowby, who was in the chair, announced that Captain Verney attended as treasurer of the Bangor Home Teaching Society for the Blind, to express on behalf of the Welsh people, their thanks to the Bible Society for printing the Gospel of St. Luke in the Welsh language in raised type for the blind.

* Lady Eleanor was 16 years older than Miss Ponsonby.—ED. B. G.

The authorities of Cardiff, as well as of Bangor College, have taken steps to purchase the Salisbury Library. The library is now in the hands of a Manchester gentleman, whose desire is to prevent it being broken up. Mr Salisbury has been forty years forming the library, which contains about 13,000 volumes, including an immense collection of Welsh ballads. In doing so he has had three objects in view, viz., to secure every book printed in the Welsh language; every book by a Welsh author; and every book upon Wales. The library includes, for instance, all the works of Sir William Jones, and everything published by or about Inigo Jones.

Ballarat is a place which is occasionally "enthusiastic" upon a subject in the heartiness of enjoyment which is commendable. The Welsh inhabitants of this particular portion of the earthly Garden of Eden on the other side of the world have lately been celebrating an Eisteddfod. The local papers published specimens of the poetry which was sung and recited upon the occasion, and although to our own untutored glances it hardly seems to possess those diabolical combinations of vowels and consonants which amply justify Coleridge's remark that the Welsh language, originally spoken in Paradise, had been half blown away by the wind, yet it may be that our suspicions are incorrect, and that it is real genuine Cambrian. We accordingly append one of the most popular verses—

GRYFFOD-AP-LLEWELLYN.
Gryffod-ap-Llewellyn Plym—
Watta nym to goeto bbedwyth—
Hhe wudd fyfle ylluo to tthe eers
Rhum-n-jynn-n-bbittys beers
Ann-y-thynge to swelle hys heddwth!
Yt wyz aull tthe ssaym to hymme.
Gryffod-ap-Llewellyn Plym,
Ffule uf llykkyr to tthe brym!
CHORUS—Sso settemupp byfoer u ggo;
Ther ys nno llykkyr adoun bbelloe.

The last line, we are told upon evident authority, is pathetically true, but as we are unable ourselves to give an opinion upon the subject, we can only leave it to our readers to finally settle.—*Sportsman*.

The 118th Exhibition of the Royal Academy of Arts, which was opened to the public last week, contains some pictures of Welsh interest. Oswestrians would probably look first at No. 127, "Mrs A. C. Arkwright," a charming portrait by Mrs Anna Lee Merritt, presented by inhabitants of Oswestry and the neighbourhood, to Mr A. C. Arkwright, of Thoby Priory. Speaking of Oswestrians reminds me that Mr W. Charles Evans, of Poets' Corner, formerly of Oswestry, is an exhibitor in the Architectural Room. He sends a very clever drawing of the West Kent College, at Brockley, which is being erected on an estate which Mr Evans has done much to develop. Mr W. G. Shrubsole, of Bangor, whose paintings of Carnarvonshire mountain scenery often find a place in the Academy, sends two pictures of familiar scenes, entitled "The Queen of Cambria," and "The Wild pomp of Mountain Majesty." His "Crown of Fire," which was hung three years ago, has been purchased by Mr John Roberts, M.P.; and "A Gustly Morning at Ogwen," by the same artist, is now in the possession of Mr R. Davies, M.P. Mr D. Bates, of Great Malvern, has been to "Carnedd Dafydd" for inspiration. Mr Short, of Cardiff, found his at "Porthcawl." Mr B. S. Marks, a well-known member of the Cymrodorion Society, sends a "Jewish Bibliophile," a quaint old gentleman in a still quainter old library. A very excellent likeness is that of Sir Edward Reed, K.C.B., M.P., by Mrs Ethel Mort-

lock. Mr T. Blake Wirgman, has done justice to the lineaments of another Welsh member, Mr W. Fuller-Maitland. In the Sculpture Room will be found a marble statue of chaste design and excellent execution, by our foremost Welsh sculptor, Mr J. Milo Griffith. Mr Alfred Gilbert sent a telling bust of the Liberal Whip, Mr Cyril Flower, formerly M.P. for the borough of Brecon.—At the Grosvenor Gallery will be found a view of "Capel Curig" by Lord Monkswell, a portrait of the Lord Bishop of Llandaff, by Miss Edith Ellison, and several views at St. David's by Mr Walter Crane, the well-known decorative artist.

Mr Arthur G. Boscawen, of Trevalyn Hall, writes to the *Field*:—On Primrose Day, April 19th, in company with a reading party from Queen's College, Oxford, I was ascending Y Glyder Fawr, Carnarvonshire, when I saw a pair of golden eagles swooping over the rocks and crags of the mountain. Ascending from the Nant Francon side, as we were scrambling up from Llyn Idwal to the great chasm known as the "Devil's Kitchen" (Twill-du), we first saw a single bird, which, from its size and flight, we thought must be an eagle, though we could hardly at first sight believe it, none of us ever having seen one before in Wales; but on reaching the flat ridge above the Devil's Kitchen, and immediately beneath the summit, our doubts were entirely removed, as we saw a pair of them hovering close to us, and one of them alighted on a stone within 200 yards of us, so that we could clearly see the shape of its body and the golden plumage, which glittered splendidly in the sun. As I hear that eagles have also been seen lately in Devonshire, I presume that the protraction of the cold weather this spring has driven them south; but is not their appearance in Wales very unusual? I may add that one of our party (Mr J. L. Hirst) has travelled a great deal in Norway, where he has frequently seen eagles on the wing, and his experience was, of course, of great value in strengthening our opinion.—The editor of the *Field* adds: The golden eagle is now so rarely observed in England and Wales, that, with all deference to the opinion of our correspondent, we incline to think the birds in question may have been buzzards. Eagles and buzzards look very much alike on the wing, and at a distance it would require a practised eye to distinguish them. We cannot call to mind any recent instance of the golden eagle being met with in England or Wales in spring, and in the majority of cases in which golden eagles have been reported to have been shot or trapped in England in autumn, the species has proved to be the sea or white-tailed eagle in immature plumage. The common buzzard, on the other hand, still breeds in the north of England, particularly in the Lake District, as well as in parts of Wales.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS IN SHROPSHIRE.—An official return has just been issued showing the number of accounts remaining open, and the amounts standing to the credit of depositors at the Post Office Savings Bank on the last day of 1884. There are returns from seventy-four Post Offices in Shropshire. In Shrewsbury office there were 4,931 accounts, representing £68,115. Castle Fields office, Shrewsbury, 371 accounts, £1,773; Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, 229 accounts, 1,680; Baschurch, 87 accounts, £1,245; Clun, 307 accounts, £4,163; Ellesmere, 456 accounts, £5,062; Llanymynech, 117 accounts, £1,240; Minsterley, 122 accounts, £2,907; Oswestry, 2,125 accounts, £24,310; Prees, 280 accounts, £1,710; Wem, 564 accounts, £6,782; Whitchurch, 1,174 accounts, £13,683. The total number of accounts in the county was 23,801, representing £432,114, an average of about £15 per account.

MAY 19, 1886.

NOTES.

A STORY OF GWIAWN BACH.—In Mr Richard Williams's "Montgomeryshire Worthies" the above-named, a poet, is stated to have flourished about 470, and was a native of Llanfair Caereinion. A saying of his is preserved in the "Sayings of the Wise":—

A glywaist ti chwedl Gwiawn
Bach, yn dangos deddf gyfiawn?
Iawn pob iawn lle bo iawn.

[Hast thou heard the saying of Gwiawn
Bach, teaching a just law?
Every claim is right where there is justice.]

Mr Williams further says there is a reference to him in the so-called "History of Taliesin." In the "Mabinogion" it is stated that in the beginning of Arthur's time and of the Round Table there lived in Penllyn a man named Tegid Voel, his wife's name was Caridwen. Their dwelling was in the midst of lake Tegid. They had two sons and a daughter, "the fairest maiden in the world was she." The one son Avagddu was the most ill-favoured man in the world. Caridwen, his mother, thinking he was not likely to be admitted among men of noble birth, by reason of his ugliness, unless he had some exalted merits or knowledge, resolved to boil a cauldron of inspiration and science for her son, that his reception might be honourable, because of his knowledge of the mysteries of the future state of the world. Then she began to boil the cauldron, which for a year and a day might not cease to boil, until three drops were obtained of the grace of inspiration, and she put the above Gwiawn Bach to stir the cauldron, and a blind man named Morda to kindle the fire beneath it, and charged them not to let it cease boiling for a year and a day. She, according to the books of the astronomers, and in planetary hours, gathered every day of all charm-bearing herbs. One day towards the end of the year, as Caridwen was culling plants and making incantations, it chanced that three drops of the charmed liquor flew out of the cauldron, and fell upon the finger of Gwiawn Bach, and, by reason of their great heat, he put his finger to his mouth, and the instant he put those marvel-working drops into his mouth, he foresaw everything that was to come, and perceived that his chief care must be to guard against the wiles of Caridwen. In great fear he fled towards his own land. The cauldron burst in two, because all the liquor within it, except the three charm-bearing drops was poisonous. When Caridwen came in, and saw all the toil of the year lost she seized a billet of wood and struck the blind Morda on the head until one of his eyes fell out upon his cheek. And he said, "Wrongfully hast thou disfigured me, for I am innocent. Thy loss was not because of me." "Thou speakest truth," said Caridwen, "it was Gwiawn Bach who robbed me," and she went forth after him running. He saw her, and changed himself into a hare and fled, but she changed herself into a greyhound and turned him. He then ran towards a river and became a fish. She in the form of an otter bitch chased him under the water until he was fain to turn himself into a bird. She as a hawk followed him and gave him no rest in the sky; just as she was about to swoop upon him and he was in

fear of death, he espied a heap of winnowed wheat on the floor of a barn, and he dropped among the wheat and turned himself into one of the grains. Then she transformed herself into a high-crested black hen and went to the wheat, scratched it, found him out, and swallowed him. As the story says, she bore him nine months, and when she was delivered of him, she could not find it in her heart to kill him, by reason of his beauty, so she wrapped him in a leathern bag and cast him into the sea, to the mercy of God, on the twenty-ninth day of April. At that time the weir of Gwyddno was on the strand between Dyfi and Aberystwyth, near to his own Castle, and the value of an hundred pounds was taken in that weir every May eve. In those days Gwyddno had an only son Elphin, the most hapless of youths and the most needy, and it grieved his father sore, for he thought that he was born in an evil hour, and by the advice of his Council his father had granted him the drawing of the weir that year, to see if good luck would ever befall him, and to give him something to begin the world. Next day when Elphin went to look, there was nothing in the weir, but as he turned back he perceived a leathern bag upon a pole of the weir. Then said one of the weirward to Elphin, "Thou hast never unlucky until to-night, and now thou hast destroyed the virtues of the weir, which always yielded the value of an hundred pounds every May eve, and to-night there is nothing but this leathern skin within it." How now, said Elphin, there may be therein the value of an hundred pounds. Well, they took up the leathern bag, and he who opened it saw the forehead of the boy, and said to Elphin "Behold a radiant brow" (*Taliesin*). Taliesin be he called, said Elphin, he lifted the boy in his arms, and lamenting his mischance, placed him sorrowfully behind him, and he made his horse amble gently that before had been trotting, and he carried him as softly as if he had been sitting in the easiest chair in the world. Presently the boy made a consolation and praise to Elphin, and foretold honour to Elphin, and this was the first poem that *Taliesin* ever sang.

DELTA.

GORONWY OWEN.—The following ode, written in commemoration of the Rev. Goronwy Owen (at one time curate of Oswestry), is from *Addl. MSS., 15,024*, p. 241:—

D.J.

I.

O could my roving muse attain
Goronwy's animating strain,
Uplod above the orb of day,
Fain would I wake a bolder lay.
Though low his birth, yet deathless still his name,
The sport of Fortune and the boast of Fame!

II.

Goronwy, the Darling of the Nine,
How big with thought his soul divine,
His works the Cambrian Bards shall own
The brightest gem in Walia's crown;
Nor shall the hand of self-devouring time
Erase his verse, fair print of thoughts divine.

III.

His sweet and energetic lay
The power of language does display;

In every glowing line behold
The diction pure, the figures bold ;
For Cambrian bards he plann'd eternal laws,
His wisdom claims the Tribute of applause.

IV.

Inspired with high prophetic rage,
How well he penn'd the moral page :
The Bard, the Christian, the Divine,
Appears in every living line ;
True to his friend and faithful to his trust,
In manners gentle and in actions just.

V.

Ye Mona's Sons, reverse the Bard,
Honour is merit's due reward ;
Let Goronwy's praise—deserving name,
Be crowned with immortal fame.

Let future Bards his Beauties all explore,
Till Sol shall run his wonted course no more.

D. DDU ERYRL.

ANCIENT FUNERALS. (Apr. 28, 1886).—THE
ORDER OF SR. THO. MIDDLETON OF CHIRKE
HIS FUNERAL (1) LEU'T OF COUNTY.

John Hughes } conductors with black Staues
Edw Parry }
poore men 2 & 2

.....	a Trumpeter
John Richards	Edw Griffith
William Rogers	John Thomas
William Thomas	Rich Price
Samuel Rogers	Robt Stilly
Hugh Bowen	penon
Tho. Booth	Standart
Anthony Stockbridge	horse of state
Barnard Price	helmet with feathers
..... Parsevell	Spurrs
Will'm Jones	gauntlets
Tho Edwards, Senr	Sword
Rich Griffith	Shield
John Eaton	Trumpiter
John Harper	Tho Taylor
John Parry	Henry Rawlyns
William Lloyd	Morgan Thomas
John Coop [er]	
Richard Garrard	penon
Rowland Wyne	Gwydon (2)
Robt Thomas	horse in black
John Hamon	Lance
Benjamin Cooper	Motto
Tho Edwards, Junr	Penon
Peter Davies	helmet & Crest
Tho Pritchard	Coate
Ministers	
Monsier Middleton	gentlem' usher
Mr Basnett }	2 penon Rolls
Doctor Edwards }	
Corpes	4 foot boys 2 on a side ye body

Mr Lloyd	2 penon Rolls
Mr Kyfyn	
S'r Tho Middleton alone	
Mr Rich Middleton	Mr Charles Middleton
Mr Tymothy Middleton	S'r Geo. Warburton
S'r Rich Wynne	Mr Peter Warburton
Mr Robert Middleton	Mr John Middleton
Mr Rich Middleton	Mr Geo Warburton
S'r Tho Grovesnor	Mr John Grovesnor
Mr Middleton of Llan-	S'r John Salisbury
silin	
S'r Francis Edwards	Mr Tho Cho'mley
	PEARMAN.

QUERIES.

THE DRUIDS' TEMPLE AT THE QUINTA.—
There is a number of large stones fixed in the ground
in The Quinta Park in a circle about 16 yards diameter,
and it is known in the neighbourhood as the Druids'
Temple. It consists of a number of long stones fixed on
their ends in the ground, and others put horizontally on
the top of some of them, and in two cases there are long
flags fixed on the top of four long stones, and three
other long stones fixed on the top of the flags, and they
are called the pulpits. Can any of your correspondents
give any account of this curious structure? J.R.

REPLIES.

MOTTO OF THE GWYDIR FAMILY (Mar. 17,
1886).—In a room in Gwydir Ucha, under the crest of
the Gwydir Family, dated 1622, the following is the
motto :—

"Nec Tumet nec Timet."

In Gwydir Castle in one place it is the same as above,
and in another place it is given thus :—"Nec Timet nec
Tumet." I.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr Henry Shaw, naturalist, Shrewsbury, has received
for preservation a fine specimen of the dotterel ("chara-
drius morinellus") shot at the Wrekin.

Through the munificence of Mrs Symes, Gorphwysfa,
Bangor, stained glass has been put into the large hand-
some window in the south transept of Bangor Cathedral,
in memory of the late Dean Edwards. The style of the
window is early English. It consists of three divisions ;
the two lower divisions have each of them two lancet lights
and a small circular light, and the third division is a large
rose light, which unites the two lower divisions, and makes
of the whole one window. The subject represented is
Christ the Centre and the Interpreter of all things. The
work has been executed by Messrs Mayer and Co., Munich
and London, the subjects being arranged by the Rev.
Owen Evans, M.A., professor of Welsh at St. David's
College, Lampeter, who, as minor canon of Bangor, was
intimately identified with the public career of the late
Dean Edwards. Mrs Symes was the donor of the reded
of the cathedral, and has in contemplation the erection
of a church at Glanadda, a populous suburb of Bangor,
also by way of perpetuating the memory of Dean Edwards.

The following is from "Leaves from our Early Issues,"
published in the *North Wales Chronicle* :—(June
5 to July 17, 1817.) "We understand that a
report of the Committee of the House of Commons
is published, in which it is submitted to change

(1) This word is erased by striking a pen through it.

(2) A *Gwydon* was a kind of flag or banner, it was split into two
at the point like a streamer; it was bound to be two and a half to
three yards long, and on it no Arms were put, only a man's
Crest, Cognizance, and Device.

nearly the whole line of road through Anglesey to Holyhead. That a little novelty of a mile or two of new road for the purpose of keeping the Irish members in good humour, should be annually undertaken, in sound policy we would not object to; but to alter the road through the whole island of Anglesey at one slap, is monstrous—extravagant—Zounds, it should furnish abundance of novelty for a century! But surely the landed proprietors of this country are not held in such low estimation by this Irish Committee, that they think it unnecessary to inform them, even through the medium of the public prints, that on such a day, perhaps, 1,000 labourers with carts, barrows, pickaxes, shovels, etc., etc., will commence pulling down their fences, tearing up their lands, dividing their fields into angles and small corners; and all for what? To furnish a level road over a country intersected with hills, for the accommodation, merely, of a few strangers!!”

A Llangollen correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says:—“After a long spell of dull cold weather, consequent on east wind, there has been a day and night of continuous rain, with north wind, and the Dee is once more bank full. In spite of unusual cold and lack of moisture, vegetation has made wonderful progress, and everything, though late, is looking its best. Even the damson bloom appears to have escaped harm, and the apple trees are thickly crimsoned over with opening buds. The wild cherries have been a mass of flowers, but are now on the wane; the petals fall like snowflakes as one passes underneath. Cornfields and meadows never looked more luxuriant, and the pastures are full of grass. Sycamores and horse chestnuts are covered with bloom, which is open in sheltered places. The beauty of the spring foliage cannot be surpassed. Both oak and beech will soon be in full leaf, but the ash makes little sign as yet. Young thrushes are most abundant, and some have left the nest. At the edge of the moor I found the nest of a ring ouzel, with young just hatched, built on the ground under a tuft of heather. The structure was strikingly neat and beautiful, lined most artistically with dried grass stems. The eggs are pale blue, spotted with cinnamon. The swifts came back last Saturday, and flew screaming in circles overhead, as though to proclaim their arrival. They are very numerous, but there seem to be fewer swallows about, and so far I have not seen a sand martin. The pied flycatcher appeared last week in the same spot it frequented before, and the blackcap and sedge warbler were both heard. I was surprised to see a flock of eight or ten starlings flying together last night, as most of them have settled to nesting. One hears the snipe making his peculiar bleating sound.

MR ROBERT WICKSTED ETHELSTON of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, succeeds to the property of Moor Hall, in the county of Essex, by the death of his aunt, Mrs Perry-Watlington. Mr Ethelston is the second son of Mr Robert Peel Ethelston, of Hinton, Shropshire.

RESIGNATION OF THE DEAN OF ST. ASAPH.—The Very Rev. R. M. Bonnor, M.A., dean of St. Asaph, owing to advanced age (the rev. gentleman having been born in 1803) has resigned the deanery of St. Asaph, to which he was appointed on the death of Dean Clough, in 1859. He had already, a few months ago, resigned the chancellorship of the diocese. The Dean is at present residing in the South of England, whither he proceeded a few months ago, the installation of Canon Morton being one of his last public functions in the Cathedral. While at St. Asaph the Dean restored the Cathedral, and was also the prime mover in restoring the parish Church. He was an ardent supporter of church building throughout the diocese. Previously to his appointment to the deanery, he was vicar of Ruabon.

THE LATE REV F. G. TIPPINGE.—The death is announced, at Sansaw Hall, near Shrewsbury, in the 66th year of his age, of the Rev F. G. Tippinge. Mr Tippinge, who was the fifth son of the late Mr Thomas Tippinge, of Davenport Hall, Cheshire, was a descendant of one of the most celebrated Manchester families of the last century, and of an ancient Lancashire family, residents of Tipping Hall, Clayton-le-Dale, in the time of Edward III. His grandfather was Joseph Tippinge, of Crumpsall Hall, who married Miss Anne Gartside, a wealthy Manchester heiress, in 1763; his great uncle, Thomas Tippinge, was a wealthy resident of Ardwick, after whom “Tipping-street” is named; and among his other Manchester ancestors were George and Samuel Tippinge, of “Tipping Gates” Cannon-street, and General Robert Tippinge, who, as an officer of the 72nd regiment, took a distinguished part in the sortie from Gibraltar, on November 27, 1781. Mr Tippinge was educated at Rugby, during the head-mastership of Dr Arnold, and graduated at Brasenose College in 1843. Ordained in 1845, he was some time incumbent of St. Peter’s, Elworth, near Sandbach, and subsequently incumbent of Moreton, in Staffordshire. In 1852 he was presented by his father (then Lord of the Manor of Bolton) to the benefice of All Saints’ Church in that town, which, however, he resigned in two years. Since then he has had no charge. Several members of the Gartside family are buried in Wrexham Parish Church. Mr Tippinge resided for some time at Llwyn Onn Hall, and was a regular attendant at the Wrexham County Bench.

CYMRU FU.

The Principality of Wales in former times contained the whole country between the Weaver, the Severn, and the sea. Besides the twelve counties, it contained extensive portions of the counties of Hereford, Worcester, Gloucester, Salop, and Chester. It measured in its primitive form from Carmel, in Anglesey, to Chepstow, in Glamorgan, about 145 miles, and from Birkenhead to Worm’s Head in Glamorgan, 141 miles. It was Egbert that obtained Chester from the Welsh about 838 A.D., and Chester was then considered the chief city of Gwynedd.—*Gwalia*, May 5, 1886.

There is no fact more certain in history than that the name Rowlands is extinct in the neighbourhood of Llangelitho, so far as it has any connection with the renowned Daniel Rowlands. On the wall within the Church of St. Giles, Shrewsbury, is the following inscription, viz:—

In memory of the Revd. John Rowlands, M.A., Rector of Llangelitho, in the County of Cardigan, and one of the Masters of the Free Grammar School in this town. Died 16th Novber, 1815, aged 80. Also of Mary, his wife, daughter of the Revd. William Gorsuch, Vicar of this parish. Died 11th March, 1821, aged 86. Also of their eldest son, the Revd. William Gorsuch Rowlands, M.A., who was curate of this parish above 32 years, and afterwards Incumbent of St. Mary’s in this town, and Prebendary of Lichfield. Died Novber 28th, 1851, aged 81.

Daniel Rowlands was a curate at Llangelitho to his son, John Rowlands. John has been described more than once as being of a cruel disposition, allowing only ten pounds a year to his renowned father for serving the living. The truth is, that ten pounds was the salary fixed previously upon when Daniel Rowlands was licensed to be curate to his brother John in 1733. There could not be a kinder man to his parents and relatives than the “Shrewsbury Parson,” as John Rowlands was called at Llangelitho. Not a penny of the tithes of Llangelitho ever went to Shrewsbury during the last twenty years of Daniel Rowlands’s life. John Rowlands’s son, William Gorsuch, was rector of St. Mary’s, Shrewsbury. He was considered of

the High Church party. There is a stone pulpit and a stained glass window erected to his memory in St. Mary's Church, Shrewsbury. He was never married. He had another son named Daniel, who was the last of the Rowlands. He was agent for many years to Earl Abergavenny. On the death of that nobleman in 1843, he resigned his post and went to reside at Grosvenor Square, London. He was married, but had no issue, and took great interest in the Foundling Hospital, London. He was buried within its chapel. His monument contains the following inscription, viz.:—

"I know that my Redeemer liveth." Sacred to the memory of Daniel Rowlands, Esqr., who died on the 20th Oct., 1859, aged 81 years. Elected a Governor of this Hospital in the year 1810.

Old Daniel Rowlands, the great revivalist, and contemporary of Whitefield and John Wesley, who, according to Lady Huntington, who was an able judge, was not inferior in eloquence to the great Whitefield, was ordained when twenty, and got married when twenty-one years of age.—*Haul, January, 1884.*

Dafydd y Garreg Wen was born at the last-named place, which is a small farm on the sea shore, not far from Portmadog, in the year 1720. His father was Owen Humphrey, and his mother was Gwen Roberts of Isallt, by the foot of Moel Hedog. Gwen was considered an excellent vocalist, and often sang pennillion, following the Welsh harp. Dafydd was a clever harpist and a gifted composer of music. It was he that composed the airs "Dafydd y Garreg Wen," "The Rising of the Lark," and the "Delight of the Men of Cricketh." Dafydd had a cousin, a gardener, residing at Roslin Castle, and it was through him that Sir Walter Scott got acquainted with his history. The great novelist has the following remark appended to his verses on the "Dying Bard." "The Welsh tradition says that a bard on his death-bed demanded his harp, played the air to which these verses are adapted, and requested it might be performed at his funeral." Dafydd composed the tune "Rising of the Lark" whilst resting on a large stone one summer morning with his harp and listening to the beautiful strains of the bird, after playing the previous night at Plas-y-Borth. One Betty Roberts told the late Ellis Owen, the bard of Cefnymeusydd, that she fully remembered Dafydd y Garreg Wen, that she danced when a girl to the stirring music of his harp, and that he was a very tall and handsome person. The harpist was buried at Ynyscynhaiarn, by the side of his brother, Owen Owen of Cefnymeusydd. John Ceiriog Hughes, Mynyddog, and Ellis Owen composed tributary verses to his memory. The latter succeeded in 1840, by means of subscriptions, to place a monument on his grave, having the image of a harp inscribed on the stone, and bearing the following words:—

The Grave of David Owen,

or
Dafydd y Garreg Wen,
The renowned Harpist,
Who was interred 1749,
Aged 29 years.

Swynai'r fron, gwnai'n llon y llu—a'i ganiad
Oedd ogoniant Cymru;
Dyma lle ca'dd ei gladdu;
Heb ail o'i fath, Jubal fu.

—*Cell Meudwy, page 61.*

The Rev Peter Roberts, author of "Popular Antiquities," and "History of Oswestry," &c., was son of a watchmaker, and born at Ruabon. His father, John Roberts, afterwards removed and began business at Wrexham, and was very much opposed by another tradesman, who placed on his sign that he was a "Watchmaker from London."

Roberts in retaliation, and to draw the wind out of his fierce rival, put above his door that he was a "Watchmaker from Ruabon." Moreover Peter Roberts was an excellent scholar and eminent as a theologian, antiquary, and astronomer. A person once asked Horseley, the Bishop of St. Asaph, if he knew Peter Roberts. The Bishop sharply replied, "Certainly he did, as there was but one Peter Roberts in the world." Roberts was rector of Llanarmon Fawr for 7 years, but resided most of his time at Oswestry. He removed to Halkin, Flintshire, in 1818, and whilst in the very act of bestowing alms by his door on a poor person, was struck with a fit of apoplexy and expired instantaneously. He was buried at Halkin, and a monument was erected to his memory in the church, with a Latin inscription.—*The Biography of Professor Thomas, Llwyn Dedwydd.* LLYWARCH HEN.

MAY 26, 1886.

NOTES.

ANCIENT FUNERALS (May 19, 1886).—THE ORDER OF THE FUNERAL OF THE RIGHT REUEREND RICH. PARRY BUSHOPP OF ST. ASAPH BURIED AT ST. ASAPH IN SEP. 1623. *his body was buried before.*

24 poore people 2 & 2 (22 with pencells) (1)

7 Yeomen in black cloth

The quiresters & singing men

John David	Robt. Edwards
Henry Conway	Tho. Carter
Rowland Lloyd	Ed: Jo. ap Rees
Edwd. Hughes	Hugh Thomas
Mr Jo. Willms	Mr Cornell
Mr Hugh Parry	Mr Rich. greene
Mr Griff. Dd. Lloyd	Mr Rees Willms
Mr Jo. Edwards	Mr Ed. Pulston
Mr Docter Price	

(or Pircie)

Doctor Daus Doctor Goodier

Doctor Lloyd

The hearse adorned with scutions carried by theis

ministers

Mr Rowland Evans Mr Robt. foulkes

Mr Euan Morgan Mr Gabrell Parry

These banner roubles carried by

Mr Tho. Parry the first ? (2)

Mr Godfrey Parry the second ?

Mr Hen. Parry the 3 ?

Mr Ed. Price the last impaled cote

Mr Rich. Parry the chief Mourner alone

Assistants.

Mr Willm. Parry Mr Ed. Parry

Mr Wm. Thomas Mr Jo. Pultson

Mrs Anne Mrs Margt. & Mrs Jane Parry.

Friends & well wishers not in black.

PEARMAIN.

DARVEL GATHERNE.—There have been two or three allusions lately to Dervel Gadarn in connection with Ellis Price. (Mar. 24, 1886.) The following may

(1) Flags.

(2) There is a word here and in the two following lines that I could not decipher; it looks like mac... (1) perhaps—it might be an abbreviation for *Marechal*=*Marshal*.

be interesting from *Michael Wodde's Dialogue*, 1554:—"If we were syke of the pestylence we ran to Sainte Rooke; if of the ague, to Saint Pernel, or Master John Shorne; if men were in prison, thei praied to St. Leonarde; if the Welchman wold have a pursse, he praied to Darvel Gatherne; if a wife were weary of her husband she offered otes at Poules, at London, to St. Uncumber." Who was this Darvel Gatherne? It will be seen that here Dervel Gadarn supplies the Welshman's purse; in one form of the legend—(See *Gossiping Guide to Wales*)—he pulls Welshmen out of hell.

W.R.H.

THE OLD COACHING DAYS.—Amongst the papers preserved at Brogyntyn there is an old coach advertisement (in the form of a hand-bill), which runs as follows:—

Golden-Cross Inn, Charing Cross, and the Swan with Two Necks, in Lad Lane, London.

THE BIRMINGHAM New and Commodious **POST COACH**, in 18 Hours, through Coventry, continues going from the above Inns every Evening, at Six o'clock, to the *King's Head*, in *New Street, Birmingham*, and returns from the said *King's Head* every Evening, at the same Hour. Inside Fare £1 5s. Outside Half Price. Small Parcels 1s. each; Luggage 1d. per Pound. All necessary Care is taken for the Accommodation of the Passengers, and all Goods will be delivered immediately on the Arrival of the Coaches. A **DILLIGENCE** every Day from the *King's Head* to *Dudley* and *Stourbridge*.

Performed by Mess. *Bolton and Wilson, London; Coates, at Stoney Stratford; Lomax, at Dunchurch; Ward, at Castle Bromwich; and Hodgkinson, at Birmingham.*

The Proprietors will not be accountable for Money, Bank Notes, Plate, Jewels, &c., unless entered as such, and paid for accordingly.

N.B.—Post Chaises, Post Coaches, &c., from all the above Inns.

The handbill bears no date, but on the back of it is written an account, as follows:—

Mr Owen to G. Boulton.	
To paid in Long Acre	0 3 6
To Standing Chaise, 3 weeks	0 6 0
	£0 9 6

Rec'd the Contents as above

By me James Wilkins.

William Owen, Esq., of Pockington, to whom the bill was made out, died in 1767, at the age of 79; so we are, perhaps, not far wrong in fixing the date of the coaching announcement about the middle of last century.

Ed.

CADDY CWM GLAS was a cousin to Peggy Evans, mentioned in *Bye-Gones* Dec. 30, 1885. She lived some 70 years ago, in Cwm Glas, about two miles from Old Llanberis, and was best known to the gamins of Caernarvon as the "Woman with the Beard." Caddy carried it bravely, and threw many a fall with the miners who presumed to tease her about it, for she, like her relative, was a splendid wrestler. A gentleman, a Mr David Jones, the proprietor of Copper Mines in the vicinity, rallied her one day on her great strength, and laughingly said he did not believe half the stories he had been told respecting her prowess. Caddy replied in perfect good humour, promising to give him a specimen

of her ability the first opportunity that offered. Next day, as he was standing on the pier at Caernarvon, talking to some of his men who were below in a boat, Caddy came quietly behind him, and lifting him from the ground with one hand, held him over the water, declaring she would drop him into it, unless he recanted all he had said the previous morning, and frankly admitted her claim to be "strong armed." Mr Jones gladly accepted the offered conditions, and confessed his mistake. Caddy's cottage stood in a lonely part of the valley. As she was returning home from work one evening she met an ugly looking fellow, walking off with some of her property, in the shape of a bag, which she immediately recognized; so she boldly went up to him, and insisted on his giving back her wallet, together with any portion of its contents which might belong to her. He accordingly produced some cheese and bacon, which she claimed, but on entering the house she discovered a silk handkerchief was missing! She directly started off in pursuit, taking the top rail of the garden gate in her hand. As soon as she overtook the thief, she brandished her cudgel over his head, seized a second bag which he carried under his arm, emptied its contents on the ground, selected her own things, and then threw, with more of temper than dignity, the dirty sack in his face, giving him, by way of a parting blessing, two hearty thracks over his broad shoulders with her rail.—(*Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. I., page 363, New Series.)

ELIOLA.

QUERIES.

LLYN DULYN (Mar. 31, 1886).—It is said that when the waters of this lake were thrown on a certain stone rain was likely to follow. Is there any parallel to this belief? And any explanation of it, as of most popular superstitions?

W.O.

REPLIES.

NEWCOME FAMILY (March 24, 1886).—The late Archdeacon Richard Newcome was born at Gresford on the 8th of March, 1779. He was the youngest son of the Rev Henry Newcome, who for thirty-nine years was vicar of that parish, and who had married in 1773 Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev Thomas Hughes, a very successful master of Ruthin School, and great grandfather of the well known author of "Tom Brown." Henry Newcome was a man of learning and a highly-respected clergyman. He had been a Fellow of Queen's College, Cambridge, and one of the Proctors of the University, and he was chaplain to his uncle, Bishop Newcome, who gave him considerable preferment in the diocese. Some account of Mr Newcome will be found in the "Life and Times" of "Nimrod," who knew him as a boy, and was the companion of his sons.

W.T.P.

Glasfryn.

CURRENT NOTES.

Traffic on the Shropshire Union Canal in the Vale of Llangollen has been suspended for a week, owing to an extensive landslip at Wenfirwd.

It is stated that the damage done to bridges by the recent floods in Shropshire will cost the ratepayers about £5,000. This is exclusive of the bridges under the control of the Highway Boards.

On Wednesday, May 19, the Rev J. W. Wynne-Jones, M.A., vicar, performed the ceremony of laying the capstone of the spire of Christ Church, Carnarvon. The spire is one of the highest in North Wales.

Ventnor Parish Church was re-opened last week by the Bishop of Hereford after restoration. The church stands on an eminence between the Longmynds and Bishop's Castle. A Norman arch and window were discovered during the progress of the restoration, which was carried out at a cost of £1,300, Mr Curson being the architect. Among the subscribers to the restoration fund were the Earl of Powis, Lord Rowton, and Mr Jasper More, M.P.

With regard to a statement as to the neglected state of the late Mr Randolph Caldecott's grave outside St. Augustine's, Florida, Mrs Caldecott writes:—"Before leaving St Augustine I arranged that a marble headstone, with a simple inscription, should be erected, and a kerbing placed round the grave, which would at least keep it apart and distinct. It was not advisable to do more then. My instructions were fully carried out five or six weeks ago, as I know from kind friends living in the town, who have also undertaken to see that the grave is carefully tended."

Cheshire has just lost a local worthy, of a very humble and unobtrusive kind, in "Old Adam," of Altrincham—a veteran public servant, who had been a "man of letters" longer than any other postman in England. Adam Shaw was in his eighty-first year, and was appointed a letter carrier at Altrincham so far back as 1843. Bowdon and Sale—now large and fashionable suburbs of Manchester, each with a huge staff of postal officials—were, in those days, obscure places, and Shaw had a circuit of twenty miles to tramp each day. In 1884 the old fellow retired on a Government pension; and it was stated at the time that he was worthy of it, since not a solitary complaint had ever been lodged against him in the whole course of his protracted career. The curious in such matters may be interested in learning that it is computed that he tramped, in the discharge of his daily duty, two hundred and twelve thousand five hundred and twenty miles; in other words, a distance equal to a pilgrimage eight times round the globe. The old man was much respected throughout the district.

The *Liverpool Daily Post*, in referring to the "Stone Crosses of the Vale of Clwyd," by the Rev. Elias Owen (published by Messrs. Woodall, Minshall & Co.) says:—"A book full of curious information has lately been published, which refers to some of the customs in vogue at Welsh weddings. Their origin, however, is very obscure. There was a curious custom called "running for the wedding cake," which has now almost disappeared. It was carried out in the following manner. As soon as the young couple were pronounced to be man and wife, the young men present in church rushed out, and started for the bride's house, and the first who arrived and announced the marriage received the wedding cake. A farmer in Carnarvonshire said that he had run when a young man four miles against thirty young men, and beat them all and obtained the cake. *Cadw neithiwr*, or keeping the wedding feast, which usually lasted all night, is a custom which disappeared in the lives of our grandparents. Dr. Owen Pughe speaks of it as being in existence in his days, and he states that the *Neithiawr* was kept on a sixth day after the wedding, generally the following Sunday, when the guests brought presents to the newly-married couple. Should a younger child in a family be married before the elder brothers or sisters, the unmarried seniors at the marriage feast were obliged to dance shoeless in the presence of the company. This custom has come down to the days of the

living, and a married woman, between fifty and sixty years old, lately told a traveller that her brother had upon her marriage undergone this penalty for permitting her, a junior, to get married before him. There is an expression occasionally heard in North Wales which would imply that people think a marriage might be contracted by jumping over a besom.

THE LATE MR JOHN BATHER.—Mr John Bather, an old and highly-valued member of the Shropshire Court of Quarter Sessions, died very suddenly at his residence, Day House, Meole, on Saturday morning. Mr Bather was chairman of the visiting justices to the Lunatic Asylum, a member of the Shropshire Chamber of Agriculture, the Board of Guardians, Highway Board, and other public bodies. He was a warm supporter of the Conservative cause, and frequently took part in local political meetings.

A MAY CELEBRATION AT OVERTON:—Mrs Girardot invited all her tenants and their families to Rose Hill, on Wednesday, May 19, to witness a May Day procession which had been arranged after the ancient custom. There was a large number of the gentry of the neighbourhood present. The procession presented an extremely picturesque appearance, including archers, friars, niggers, millers, and other characters, all suitably represented. The May Queen, a little girl robed in white, walked under a canopy carried by four boys. The band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers was present, and enlivened the proceedings with some excellent music. After the procession the company danced round the maypole until tea time, and in the evening races and other games were arranged for the younger ones.

OSWESTRY AND WELSHPOOL NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUE. —The first excursion for this year was on Wednesday, May 19. The party took train to Butington Station, and then walked under Moel y Gofa to the foot of the Breidden; and after a good climb reached Rodney's Pillar. Here a heavy storm of rain came on, which spoiled the distant view. The course of the Severn and Vyrnwy immediately below was marked out by the extensive floods; many acres of land being under water. Leaving the summit of the Breidden, the party descended to Criggion, and then proceeded to Llandrinio Rectory, where they had been kindly invited to tea. They returned to Oswestry from Four Crosses Station by the seven train. There was rather a small attendance, consisting of the President, the Rev. D. P. Lewis, Mr Wakelam, and the Revs. J. Griffiths, J. Morris, H. R. Scott, and O. M. Feilden. Among the plants found were the stork's bill (*erodium cicutarium*), the crane's bill (*geranium lucidum* and *sanguineum*), the rock-rose, and solomon's seal. Only the first two were in flower.

NOTES ON SHROPSHIRE BIRDS.

(By William E. Beckwith in the "Field.")

I propose to give some account of the game birds and wild-fowl, including the numerous family of waders, that are either resident in Shropshire or visit us during the autumn and winter months. The aspect of the county varies so much that it will be best to divide it into north and south, the north lying to the left, and the south to the right of the Severn. The surface of North Shropshire is generally flat and fertile, there being, with the exception of the Wrekin, only a few small hills. At no very distant period this district abounded in large tracts of wild open heaths, interspersed with bogs and mosses; but these are now nearly all inclosed and cultivated, though Whixall Moss, between Ellesmere and Whitchurch, is still a wide expanse of bog and heather. The numerous meres and pools scattered throughout this part of the county are alike interesting to the naturalist and sportsman, affording, as they do, tempting retreats for various kinds of wild-

fowl. In contrast to this, South Shropshire abounds in hills and dales, the hills, or rather ridges of high land, having their sides usually inclosed and cultivated, and their summits covered with trees or heather. The Brown Clees Hill, 1,788ft., and the highest hill in the county, is in this district, the Titterstone Clees and the Stiperstones Hill being little inferior to it; whilst the highest part of the heather-clad range called the Longmynds exactly equals the Wrekin in the north, both being 1,342ft. above mean sea level. Besides the Severn, the only large rivers are the Tern and Vyrnwy in the north, and the Teme in the south. The area of the whole county is 844,565 acres. Nearly all the English game birds have been found in Shropshire. Some sixty years ago two great bustards were seen on the Longmynds, near Church Stretton, and I am inclined to think that about that time there was a nest on one of the heaths between Shrewsbury and Oswestry, as a gentleman, now living at Fitz, remembers seeing some tame bustards, probably reared from eggs found in the neighbourhood, at a timber yard belonging to Lord Powis. The black grouse, once common throughout the county, is now rarely seen in the north, turf-cutters and railway trains having almost driven it from Whixall Moss, its last stronghold. In the south, however, it is common, and in recent years has not only, where preserved, increased in numbers, but become more widely distributed. Leland, travelling in the sixteenth century, noticed the abundance of "hethe cocks" about the Clees Hills, and they are still plentiful there, as well as in Corvedale, between Much Wenlock and Ludlow. Black game are also found on the hills round Church Stretton, the Stiperstones, Clun Forest, and other hills along the Welsh borders. Of late years, too, there have been several broods on Wenlock Edge, where, if preserved, they would probably establish themselves. In spring and autumn these birds sometimes stray far away from their usual homes; they then visit Willey Park, near Broseley, where, though strictly protected by Lord Forester, they do not remain; and I have notes of a grey hen killed last year on the banks of the Severn, near Cressage, and one this year at Aston Rogers, near Worthen. Several instances of black grouse breeding with the pheasant have occurred. In 1884 there was a brood of these hybrids at Plowden, near Bishop's Castle, two or three of which were shot. Red grouse have never been more than stragglers to North Shropshire, where one was killed near the Wrekin in 1881, but in the south it is found in several places, being most common on the Longmynds and Clun Forest. It is also found on the Clees Hills and the Stiperstones, but its numbers on both, owing to the small extent of heather, are limited. On Mr Scott's part of the Longmynds, comprising about 1,000 acres, fifteen brace is an average bag for the first day's shooting, and on the Brown Clees, where Lord Boyne allows very few to be killed, the computed number of grouse is forty or fifty brace, on about 300 acres of heather. I have heard an opinion expressed that red grouse are not natives, but were introduced by a gentleman living near Church Stretton, the late Mr Pinches of Ticklerton. This seems extremely improbable, especially when it is considered that in the adjacent Welsh counties it is undoubtedly indigenous. The partridge is plentiful throughout the county, being abundant where preserved. Of late years, however, the proportion of old birds has often been so great that a suspicion arises of disease sweeping off the young ones. Probably partridges are naturally nowhere more common than along the valley of the Severn, the river affording a barrier to pursuit. The red-legged partridge is a rare visitant, single birds have, however, been killed late in the season, and I have a note

of one caught in a trap at Acton Burnell, in April, 1833. The late Earl Forester, about the year 1868, attempted to introduce these birds on his property at Willey, and in 1870 Lord Bradford repeated the experiment at Weston; but both failed in naturalizing them, and in two or three years they disappeared. The quail, said to have been common early in the century, was for many years seldom seen. Now, however, it is a regular summer visitant to North Shropshire, and, though apparently found in very few localities, has lately become more numerous as a species. The districts round High Erroll and Waters Upton, as well as about Wroxeter and Uppington, are annually visited by it, and occasionally nests have been found in other places. I suspect, after all, quail are more widely distributed than is generally supposed. Few people know or notice their soft liquid cry, resembling the syllables "whit-whit-whit," repeated three times; and although, like the landrail, the greater number migrate before the shooting season begins, those that remain are often mistaken for "squeaker" partridges, and not fired at. In September and October small parties of quail, three being very often found together, are dotted about the county, and are probably migrants from more northern parts. The latest date I know of its staying here is October 18th, one being killed then at St. Martins, near Oswestry. Passing on to the numerous family of waders, some of which are frequently killed in the shooting season, the great plover, or stone curlew, is very rare, and there is no recent instance of its occurrence. Golden plover are regular spring and autumn migrants, sometimes remaining through the winter. In spring flocks of fifteen to twenty, or even more, are often seen along the valley of the Severn, as well as in marshy meadows in other parts of the county; but in autumn small parties of three or four, or single birds, are usually found, either by themselves on fallow fields or in company with lapwings. By putting up the flock, however, the golden plover are easily seen, their flight being much more rapid and snipe-like. Last January I saw two of these plovers that had been killed by the telegraph wires near Cressage. The dotterel is a very rare visitant, sometimes found in South Shropshire in spring or autumn. And the ringed plover is also rare, though I have occasionally seen it by the Severn in April and August, and a beautiful male was shot by a small pool on Charlton Hill, near Wroxeter, in April, 1876. Lapwings, or peewits, are very plentiful, and have much increased in numbers of late years, their eggs being but little sought after for the table. In autumn immense flocks of lapwings frequent the large open fields along the Severn, the home-bred birds having been then joined by migrants; and there they remain till the end of October, when the greater number leave, though, except in severe frost, some are to be seen throughout the winter. No bird is more useful to the farmer than the peewit. In late summer and autumn, especially in dry seasons, it lives principally in turnip fields, feeding on that most destructive grub, the larvæ of *Agrotis segetum*. I have not seen any recent specimen of the turnstone, and the oyster-catcher is very rare; a few, however, have been obtained, both in spring and autumn. I do not think the crane has ever occurred in this county, though on July 14th, 1868, a young bird of this species was killed at Trippleton, Herefordshire, not far from the borders. Unfortunately, the farmer who killed it looked in a book of natural history, wherein he found it called the common crane! so gave it his servant to eat. As soon, however, as the late Mr Rooke heard of it he asked him to come and look over the collection at Clunjunford, when he immediately pointed out the crane as the bird he had shot. The heron, in spite of much persecution, is still common, and, besides the heronries at

Attingham, Oakley Park, Walcot, and Halston, one or two pairs occasionally breed at Shavington and about Ellesmere, though the heronry on the island in Ellesmere Mere has long ceased to exist. I fear, however, the number of nests in all our heronries is gradually decreasing. It would be very interesting if someone living near a heronry would examine the remains of the food brought to their young, and see what they principally feed on. At present, herons are accused not only of devouring fish wholesale, but of striking and killing those that are too large for them to swallow. Be this as it may, I have often seen herons watching by drains inhabited only by eels and frogs, when neighbouring brooks abounded in fish. In Shropshire the heron is commonly called "a crane," a name apt to cause confusion between two species. The squacco heron has only once occurred in this county; but a few years ago a second example was obtained on the borders of Montgomeryshire. A very fine specimen of the little bittern was killed near Ellesmere on the 19th of May, 1880, and in July, 1881, another was shot on the borders of Cheshire. The first recorded instance of this bird being found in Great Britain was in Shropshire, Pennant, in his "British Zoology," giving a description of one killed on the banks of the Severn, at Shrewsbury. The bittern, once common in North Shropshire, has not bred here since 1836, when two nests were found near Shifnal. Though now rare, one or two appear nearly every winter. Last November I saw a beautiful male bittern that had been shot near Ellesmere; and in the early part of this year two female bitterns were killed near Montford Bridge and Baschurch. It is a great pity that these fine birds when found should be invariably shot; if they were spared, there are yet many quiet reedy pools in North Shropshire that might again tempt them to remain and breed. The night heron has not been obtained since 1834. In the spring of 1854 two specimens of the glossy ibis were several times seen about a pool at Sundorne, near Shrewsbury, and were eventually shot; but, as one was thrown away, it was impossible to ascertain whether they were a pair. The curlew, during the breeding season, is almost entirely confined to South Shropshire, very few now breeding on Whixall Moss, where once it was common. In the south, however, numbers still breed on Clun Forest, a large tract of moorland between Bishop's Castle and the borders of Wales, at one time covering nearly 12,000 acres, but now much reduced by cultivation, as well as on the Longmynd and other hills about Church Stretton. Of late years, too, there have been several nests in the valley to the north of Wenlock Edge, the birds laying in rough grass fields. In spring and autumn, on their way to and from their breeding grounds, curlews are sometimes seen in other parts of the county. A few years ago, I found two near Cressage on July 19, one of which, a young one, though well able to fly, I killed; and in October, 1883, a very fine curlew, a female bird, was shot on Charlton Hill. I have also notes of their being seen at these seasons about the Cleve Hills, and in the low meadows round Ellesmere, Baschurch, and Meverley. The whimbrel is a rare visitant in spring and autumn, being most frequent in the latter season, when small flocks or single birds are sometimes found by pools or in low marshy meadows. In October, 1882, three whimbrels, all birds of the year, were shot near Ellesmere, and it has also occurred near Baschurch. This bird, even when killed, is no doubt sometimes mistaken for a small variety of the curlew, but it is easily distinguished by its bill, which is slight and curved from the base, the curlew's being thicker in proportion, and straight for a short distance from the base. Moreover, the whimbrel has a white line over each eye, surmounted by a dark bar, which is absent in the cur-

lew. The redshank has only occurred on one occasion of late years; in the autumn of 1877 a small flock visited the streams in the neighbourhood of Clun, and, though several were shot, remained there for some time. Possibly, in bygone years, redshanks bred at Shrawardine Pool, a large pool with several islands in it, six miles west of Shrewsbury, as a small bird is said to have come there in summer that had "bright red legs," and flew with "a quick, dashing flight like a snipe." The common sandpiper visits our pools and rivers in April, when for a short time it is very numerous. Then the greater number leave for the breeding season, and return again with their young in July; but in South Shropshire, many breed by the large brooks, so common in the hilly parts of that district, and recently one or two pairs have bred by the Severn near Ironbridge. This sandpiper usually migrates south in August and September, but of late years it has occasionally remained on the Severn throughout the winter, and three that I examined, all shot in December, were excessively fat. Solitary examples of the greenshank, usually young birds, are sometimes found by pools or streams in autumn, from August to November; but it has never, I believe, occurred in spring. Last August an immature bird was shot near Pontesbury, and I have known it killed on the Severn and Tanat. The black-tailed god-wit is very rare indeed, though in the spring of 1877 three were seen in a marshy field near Wellington. The bar-tail god-wit sometimes occurs in autumn and winter. Last January one was shot on the Severn; in 1881 one was killed by the telegraph wires in Shrewsbury; and, though usually found alone, two were killed with a right and left shot, in a turnip field at Cressage, in 1878. The green sandpiper is frequently found by pools, small streams, and open drains, from July to the end of December, and more rarely in the early months of the year. Single birds are most common, but sometimes two or three frequent the same stream. Occasionally these sandpipers have remained throughout the summer, probably young or barren birds; but in June, 1863, Henry Shaw found two by Condover Brook that, from their manner, he thought had a nest or young ones near. Unfortunately, however, this bird's peculiar habit of laying its eggs in the old nest of a thrush or wood pigeon was not then generally known, and a search for the nest along the banks of course proved fruitless. Pennant, in his "British Zoology," 1812, says the avoset is "sometimes found on the lakes of Shropshire," but I know of no recent instance of its occurrence. The ruff has been obtained two or three times, and has twice been killed in winter; one having been shot near Meverley, in December, 1861, and one near Buildwas, in January, 1867, both being found in hard frost. Possibly ruffs occasionally visit us during their spring migration, as on May 11th, 1881, two birds were seen by the Tanat, a small river on the borders of Wales, and one of them that was killed proved to be a reeve, or female ruff. Several instances of woodcocks breeding in Shropshire at irregular intervals have been recorded—and now, in two localities at least, one in the northern, the other in the southern portion of the county, there are nests every year; four or five pairs breeding on Lord Forester's property, under the Wrekin, and at Willey. Woodcocks appear to lay early as well as late in the summer, and probably rear two broods, though perhaps these late eggs are only laid when the first have been destroyed. In 1879 a pair of woodcocks, with three young ones so small that they could scarcely fly, were seen near the Wrekin, late in July; in 1882 a nest with three eggs, to which a fourth was afterwards laid, was found at Willey on June 18th; and in 1885 a young woodcock, that could fly well, was shot under the Wrekin, the keeper mistaking it for a hawk, on May 16. In winter cocks are now

much less numerous than formerly, and as the woods where they used to be found have undergone little change, this decrease in their numbers can only be accounted for by the fact that, from some unknown cause, fewer migratory ones now visit us. The largest bag of cocks recently made was at Hawkstone, where Lord Hill's party killed 41 in a day; but the late Lord Forester got nearly 60 couple on his Willey property in a season. To show, however, that their numbers have diminished, the late Mr George Pardoe used, 20 years ago, to shoot about 25 couple near the Cleve Hills, during the winter; then it became difficult to get more than 10, and latterly only four or five birds were found. The catalogue of the Hawkstone Museum contains an autograph letter of the late Mr Gould's, describing a woodcock, shot on the property in 1871, that weighed nearly 16 ounces. A great snipe has not occurred during the last 30 years, and it appears to have always been a very rare visitant. Nor does it seem more common in North Wales; one, however, was killed near Dolgellay last September. The common snipe is resident throughout the county; and, whilst on Whixall Moss, the Stiperstones, Clun Forest, the Longmynd, and Cleve Hills, they are numerous in summer, numbers also breed on the lower hills, as well as in small bogs and marshy fields. What time snipe begin to lay I am unable to say, but their "bleating" may be heard in the middle of April; and on July 19th, 1878, I put up an old snipe in a boggy field near Berrington, that fluttered and tumbled about like a bird that had young, and after a short search I found two baby snipe, a piece of shell still sticking to one of them, squatting in a tuft of rushes. After examining them for a few minutes, I put them down again and, though so young, they at once tried to hide in the long grass. In August and September migratory snipe visit us for a short time, and they are then more numerous than at any other season. In winter, though generally distributed, snipe are nowhere abundant, and, owing to many of their haunts being drained, have become less common of late years. Fortunately, however, most of the low-lying parts of North Shropshire can only be drained by open ditches, and these afford them capital feeding ground. A few winters ago a labourer took a snipe alive, and uninjured, to Knockin Hall, near Oswestry, that he had caught in a curious way. As he was going to his work in the morning he saw it fluttering on the ground, and found it had "rammed" its bill so far into the mud that it could not draw it out again. The Clungunford collection contains a specimen of the large light-coloured variety or race of snipe, purchased by the late Mr Locke, in Shrewsbury, but not killed in the county. Anyone who has carefully watched snipe when "bleating" or "drumming" can, I think, have no doubt that the noise is made by the air passing through the set feathers of the wings and tail during the rapid descent or dive the bird always makes when the sound is produced; in summer the snipe's vocal note being a sharp "click," often repeated as it flies, but only audible at a short distance, and very unlike its well-known alarm cry when flushed in winter. Jack snipe, resorting as they chiefly do to small bogs and spring-heads, have been far more affected by drainage than the common kind, and are now comparatively rare, though a few are found scattered in the county every winter, being most common through severe frosts, usually a solitary bird. Before they migrate in spring, a couple of jacks (probably a pair) are sometimes found together. On April 27th, 1876, I found two near Whixall that would not leave a particular part of the bog, and kept flying round and round, as if they had a nest; but I could find none, nor, I believe, has it ever been known

to breed in England. The latest date I know of its occurrence here is April 29th, when a friend saw one on the Tanat. The curlew sandpiper, or pigmy curlew, has not been noticed since 1836, when one was killed on the old racecourse near Shrewsbury. The knot is a rather rare and irregular visitant, but single birds are sometimes found by the Severn and other streams. Mr Locke (*Zoologist*, 1866, p. 83) says it is usually met with "in summer plumage," but I think he must refer to its occurrence in counties near the Welsh coast, as all the specimens obtained recently have been birds of the year killed in autumn or winter, and I have no note of its being seen after February. Schinz's or Bonaparte's sandpiper was first described as British from a specimen killed on Stoke Heath in 1832, and now in Lord Hill's collection at Hawkstone. The dunlin rarely occurs, but occasionally single birds are obtained, and, after the tremendous gale in October, 1881, I found three together in a flooded meadow near Cressage. Last October an unusually large specimen of the dunlin, which was at first thought to be a curlew sandpiper, was killed near Minsterley. Although rare, an autumn very seldom passes without one or two grey phalaropes being seen, the birds occasionally having a few red feathers of their summer dress remaining, or their delicate grey garb of winter put on, but usually being in the mixed plumage worn between the two seasons. This phalarope, when inland, is generally found alone, but in October, 1881, I saw two together in a flooded meadow below Eytton-on-Severn; they were swimming about with the greatest ease, reminding one rather of miniature teal, and were remarkably tame, picking up small objects off the water within a few yards of where I stood. The visits of this bird and the marine sandpipers are, no doubt, chiefly owing to stormy weather on the west coast; for, though one or other of the species I have mentioned appears nearly every year, they are of much more frequent occurrence after high westerly gales, especially in September and October. Several of the rails are found in Shropshire. The landrail, or corncrake, arrives about the middle of April, and is very numerous during the summer throughout the county, being especially fond of frequenting low, rich valleys. Unfortunately, however, though an excellent bird for the table, it is of little value from a sportsman's point of view, as the majority migrate before the shooting season begins, and only a few stragglers are found in September and October, usually in fields of aftermath clover. Solitary landrails have been killed in winter, but I have no note of their occurrence in February or March. In 1883, Lord Brownlow's keeper killed one near Ellesmere, on November 10th; in 1879, one was shot near Shrewsbury, on December 8th; Morris, in his "British Birds," mentions one obtained near Shifnal on January 28th; and Gould in his "Birds of Great Britain," one that he picked up dead at Hawkstone in that month. Owing to the reclamation of so many bogs and marshes, the spotted crane has become rare. A few, however, still visit the upper valley of the Severn above Shrewsbury, and the neighbourhood of West Felton and Kinnerley, in autumn, and it has been killed by snipe shooters in December on several occasions; but whether it usually remains during winter is doubtful. I cannot obtain any evidence of its occurrence in spring or summer, though very probably it may be found at both seasons; but after the shooting season is over the places it frequents are seldom disturbed, and it is extremely difficult to detect the presence of such a shy skulking bird. The same cause that has affected the spotted crane has in a less degree reduced the number of water-rails; but, whilst the former appears to always resort to small bogs and overgrown ditches, the latter, when these fail, is content to make its

home in the reeds and thick grass surrounding large pools. At present, as a winter visitant, the water rail is by no means rare, especially in North Shropshire, though, owing to the thick, tangled nature of the coverts in which it lives, it is not often flushed or seen. In severe frost, however, when driven from its usual hiding places to the sides of open brooks, numbers are killed. This was notably the case in the long frost of December and January, 1878-9, when rails were plentiful in many places where they had not occurred for years. About Ellesmere it is known by the singular name of "water weasel," and I frequently, when walking quietly by the meres, see a water rail stealing, more like a rat than a bird, along the edge of the water, or hear its peculiar squealing cry from among the reeds. I am not aware that the water rail has ever been known to breed in Shropshire, though a pair were killed in the summer of 1867, under the Wrekin, near Uppington; but, except by accident, its nest, built in some thick, overgrown bog, is not easily discovered. The moorhen is very abundant throughout the county, resorting to rivers and brooks when its favourite pools are frozen over. The coot resides on all our meres and large pools, and is consequently much more plentiful in North than South Shropshire; but, except in winter, it is seldom seen on rivers, and very rarely, like the moorhen, on small pools. Its numbers are, in autumn, greatly increased by migrants; and probably, in winter, there are more coots on the Ellesmere meres than in the whole county during summer. Coots appear to feed chiefly on aquatic plants, after which they dive at all times of the day; but their dive consists of an almost perpendicular plunge, and, though said to be able, they never, unless frightened or wounded, travel like a grebe under water. When unmolested the coot becomes exceedingly tame. On Ellesmere mere, where it is protected, it may often be seen feeding a few yards from the high road, and, when disturbed by boats, it only flies to another part of the mere. At night, judging from their traces in snow, these birds wander some distance away from the water. Of the real wild fowl, geese and swans have, as in most inland counties, become rare, though the former are not infrequently seen flying over. But on the lakes of north Shropshire ducks abound, and, what is still more interesting, two or three kinds, that formerly were considered migrants only, now stay occasionally, if not regularly, to breed. Numbers of common ducks, as well as teal, would also remain throughout the summer if the shortsighted practice of shooting them in spring could be stopped; but, though illegal, it is extremely difficult to enforce the law; and when, after pairing, they retire to some pool or marsh for the breeding season, being comparatively tame, they often fall victims to prowling gunners. About wild geese I can say very little, for though in winter they are occasionally seen, sometimes in large flocks, flying across the country, they are rarely killed. No specimen of the grey lag goose has been obtained recently, though it appears at one time to have occurred. The bean goose is, I suspect, the most common kind, and in some winters these geese frequent a district for several weeks, taking up their abode in open fields, and carefully keeping away from the hedges. In the winter of 1878-9 two flocks, of about twenty, visited the Severn meadows below Eytton, and some large fields near Uppington. One bird was killed out of each, and both proved to be young birds of this species. The pink-footed goose is apparently very rare. In January, 1879, two geese were seen on the Severn, near Cound, by the late Mr H. J. Moseley, and one that he killed was a pink-footed goose. The white-fronted goose is nearly as rare

as the last. Two were killed in February, 1855, near Ludlow; and in December, 1871, one was killed on the Teme, also in that neighbourhood. The Bernicle goose never appears to visit us, and the Brent goose is very rare indeed. One was shot on the Severn near Shrewsbury in the severe winter of 1861, and in October, 1883, one was killed out of a small flock on the hills near Church Stretton. Egyptian geese have been several times obtained, but always, I believe, young birds, that have been bred on ornamental pools and not pinioned. Semi-wild Canadian geese are also often found, having escaped in like manner. Though in these days very rare, forty or fifty years ago both the hooper and Bewick's swan were often found on the Severn in severe weather; and in 1837 no less than twenty-five, chiefly adult hoopers, were killed in different parts of the county. Now both birds have almost entirely ceased to visit us. The last occasion on which any have been killed was in the winter of 1861, when two hoopers were shot at Halston, near Oswestry, and not far from an extensive tract of low-lying land between Ellesmere and Baschurch, called Baggymoor (a corruption of Boggy moor), that before it was drained was a favourite resort of geese, swans, and other wildfowl. On the 4th of March, 1881, I was walking round Whitemere, a large mere near Ellesmere, when a single swan got up, some distance off, from among the tame ones, and, after flying in circles till it had got to a considerable height, went away in a north-westerly direction; but whether it was a vagabond tame swan, or a wild one, I could not see. The sheldrake very rarely occurs, and previous to the winter of 1834-5 only a few single individuals had been obtained; but in that winter a small flock visited the Severn, and three of them that were killed proved to be males, in nearly but not quite adult plumage. Of the true ducks, the shoveller is rather rare, and is more frequently found in spring and autumn than winter. Within the last few years there have been five or six instances of its breeding in North Shropshire, and along the borders of Staffordshire, and, as in spring these handsome ducks usually appear in pairs, some would probably stay every year, if undisturbed; but unfortunately at Easter our pools are much resorted to by fishermen, and the wildfowl frightened, just at the migratory period, when they ought to be kept quiet. The gadwall has always been rare; about thirty years ago a young male was killed on the Severn, but I have no note of its occurrence since. The pintail also very seldom visits us, though it has occasionally been found on the small rivers and brooks in South Shropshire. In the north I have never seen it on the meres; but in 1863 an adult male was shot on the Severn at Wroxeter, and Col. Bridgeman informs me it has been killed on Lord Bradford's pools near Shifnal. The wild duck has of late years become common in summer. Few birds of any species change their habits more completely or show more solicitude for their young, than ducks; for, though generally so wild, they throw off all shyness directly they have paired, and, when with her brood, the old duck tumbles and plunges about in the reeds or water, and uses every effort to entice intruders away. The garganey is said to have occurred in the county years ago, but I do not know of any specimen now in existence. The teal has become, like the wild duck, a common resident, and the number of those that remain to breed is increasing, especially in certain districts. In one favourite locality that I know there are at least 15 or 20 nests every year, some being placed in heather, others in open places in woods, and a few among rushes. In winter teal are the most plentiful of any duck, large flocks frequenting meres and pools in open weather, and, should frost set in, dispersing along rivers, brooks, and even

ditches where the water is not frozen. The widgeon, from some cause or other that it is impossible to explain, has of late years become rare. Within the last twenty years it was more common in winter than the teal on the meres and pools of North Shropshire, and, if these were frozen, on the Severn and many of its tributaries. Now, however, only a few small lots visit the meres, and even in frost it is very seldom found on the Severn, whilst freshly killed birds are scarcely ever exposed for sale by the local game dealers. In Shropshire all wildfowl, except the common wild duck, are called "wigeon," the present species being termed a "magpie wigeon." Several of the diving ducks, as they may well be called, are annual winter visitants, and one kind at least has of late become resident. They may easily be known, even at a distance, by their habit of swimming low in the water, and frequently diving, or when flying, by their heavy-looking bodies, small wings, and somewhat laboured flight. One specimen only of the velvet scoter has been obtained, and that, an adult male, was found exhausted and unable to fly, near Shrewsbury, in November, 1866. The common scoter has been killed several times, usually in spring or autumn. One now in my collection, shot on the Severn in May, 1876, was so tame, that at first it was supposed to have escaped from a farmyard. Large flocks of pochards visit the meres of North Shropshire every winter, but, as they usually keep out in the open water, very few are killed. As a rule, with migratory ducks, the females or young males in their first year's plumage far outnumber the old full-plumage males; but with the pochard this is not the case, the old males being the most plentiful, and it is not uncommon to see twenty to thirty together, or even more, without a single female or young bird. Except in frost, this duck is seldom found on running water, though occasionally small lots or single birds are shot on the Severn; and last November a beautiful old male was killed on the Tanat. In May, 1875, Colonel Bridgeman found a pochard's nest with eggs near Shifnal, and in 1883 I saw a pair in July, with four young ones, on a pool near Shrewsbury. I have also twice seen old birds late in the spring, that probably had nests. The scaup duck is very uncommon; single females or young males have, however, been occasionally killed, some of the former with a white ring round the base of the bill well defined. The old males are very rare indeed, but in January, 1885, two fully adult ones were shot out of a lot of three on the Vyrnwy, close upon the borders of Shropshire. The tufted duck is rather common on pools in winter, being often found with pochards; and though the females or young birds are always much more plentiful than the handsome adult males, I frequently see the latter on the Ellesmere meres. About the year 1855 a pair of tufted ducks bred near Shifnal, and several pairs now breed regularly in that neighbourhood. I have also seen one with young ones in June on a pool near Shrewsbury, and last summer I saw a pair of tufted ducks, but without young, on Whitemere Mere, near Ellesmere. Except in hard frost, this duck is not often seen on the Severn. The long-tailed duck has only, I believe, been found on three occasions, all in November. On November 6th, 1871, Lord Newport killed a young male at Tong, near Shifnal. On November 20th, 1881, I saw four small ducks on Ellesmere Mere that at first I could not identify; but after some time, as they were very tame, I got a good view of them, and with the aid of a telescope could see they belonged to this species, and had the same markings about the head as the right-hand figure in Yarrell's plate. Though I watched them for several hours, they never went far from the edge of the mere or joined the other wildfowl. They swam very low in the water, and kept constantly diving.

On Nov. 13th, 1885, I also saw a single long-tailed duck on Whitemere, a large mere about two miles from Ellesmere; like the others, it did not get up, but allowed me to get quite near it, and I should say, from the white look of its head and neck, that it was a male beginning to get its adult plumage. The golden-eye is, in small numbers, an annual winter visitant, females and young birds being found usually in small parties of three or four on meres and pools, or in frost on rivers and brooks. No duck is more easy to identify on the water than this, its large "bushy-looking" head and short bill distinguishing it at once from all other kinds. Old male golden-eyes seldom appear, except in severe frost, and are even then rare; but, curiously enough, in the remarkably mild winter of 1884-5 no less than three occurred, all in full plumage, and one of these I saw on the Severn as late as April 10th. Besides ducks, the smew, especially the adult male, is rare; but goosanders, often in flocks of sixteen or twenty, appear on the Severn whenever there is much frost, and though many of them are in the "dun diver" plumage, old males are not infrequent. I have now, I think, noticed most of the birds likely to be killed in the shooting season, with the exception of the pheasant; and I need hardly say that this is generally distributed, in all wooded districts being abundant, and living a semi-domestic life when preserved. In concluding these notes, I may remark that blackgame, if protected and the grey hens spared, would in all probability continue to increase and spread over South Shropshire. If the law, too, prohibiting the killing of wildfowl after March 1st was strictly observed, one or two handsome ducks, such as the shoveller, tufted duck, and perhaps pochard, might remain more frequently through the summer. The assertion, so often made, that ducks have become less plentiful in winter than they were formerly has, I think, no foundation. It is true that wigeon, from unexplained causes, are now rare, but I know of no evidence that other kinds have decreased in the same manner. Finally, may I beg of Shropshire sportsmen who kill any of the Sandpiper family, or the ducks locally called "wigeon," to have the specimens identified before eating or throwing them away? Really rare and interesting birds are sometimes thus treated, from their value not being known.

Mr Henry L. Smith, Llanbrynmair, writes:—Mr W. E. Beckwith alludes to the solitary or great snipe (*Gallinago major*) as being a rare visitant of Shropshire and the adjoining counties. It may be interesting to some of your readers to know that during a residence of twelve years here, I have seen three solitary snipe killed on Sir W. W. Wynn's Llanbrynmair estate. The last specimen was shot by John Beedle, Sir W. W. Wynn's keeper, in the winter of 1877-8; and I saw another killed by Mr Leighton, Sir Watkin's head keeper, in the severe winter of 1878-9, on the Wynnstay estate, Denbighshire. The prevailing opinion amongst sportsmen in this district is that woodcocks are less numerous now than in former years, and there are old men still living here who remember in the "flint and steel age" numbers of cocks being caught on our hill sides in horsehair springs. I am afraid that a return to this pristine method now would meet with little success, though fifty-three couple cocks were shot on Sir Watkin's Llanbrynmair estate last season, and the record for this season is thirty-four couple up to the present.

Messrs Woodall, Minshall, and Co. propose in the course of a few months to begin the publication of a new History of Oswestry and the neighbourhood, for which a large amount of material was collected by the late Mr Askew Roberts.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

MR. PHILLIMORE ON THE WELSH TRIADS.

Mr Egerton G. B. Phillimore, who has been appointed editor of the *Cymmrodor*, read some weeks ago the first of a series of papers on the Welsh Historical Triads before the Society of Cymmrodorion. The chair was occupied by Mr Howel W. Lloyd, M.A., one of the most active and faithful members of the Council of the Society, who, in opening the proceedings, dwelt on some of the general characteristics of the Welsh Triads, and pointed out the great benefit to accrue from the careful examination and collation by Mr Phillimore of the various renderings. The following is a report of Phillimore's paper:—

A very superficial examination of the existing original Welsh Literature of the middle and earlier ages suffices to show that the authors drew from a rich store if not of written history and legend, at least of historical and legendary tradition, a great portion of which repertory is now more or less completely lost to us, except in so far as preserved in the casual and fragmentary allusions of the authors in question. Allusions to events, persons, and places made in a way which shows that they must have been well understood by the public for whom the authors wrote, abound in the Mabinogion, the Triads, and the works of the Welsh poets who wrote before the Reformation (many of them unfortunately still unpublished). Of the causes which have led to this most unfortunate loss of so much Welsh lore much might be said, but the fact is beyond dispute. I will now proceed to give a brief account of the various branches of the original or indigenous Welsh prose literature preserved to us which are capable of being utilized as sources of genuine Welsh History, Tradition, and Mythology; side by side with the Historical Triads with which I have specially to do. The great glory of Welsh literature is of course to be found in its poetry, which in quantity, quality, and range is truly surprising, especially when we take into account the very early age from which much of it in some form or other, dates, and the fact that most of the earliest Welsh poetry, which is in any degree historical, or purports to be so, refers not to Wales at all in its modern geographical sense, but to the kingdom of the Northern Welsh, variously known as Cumbria or Strathclyde, the political separation of which from Wales seems to have been consummated not later than the late seventh or early eighth century, whilst even the absorption of its Welsh nationality into the Gaelic and Anglican nationalities of South Western Scotland and North Western England would appear to have taken place as early as the eleventh and twelfth centuries. But if the richness of the store of Welsh poetry which has descended to our times, and the manner in which its preservation has been effected are truly remarkable, not less so is the extreme scantiness of the original Welsh prose literature, if we put aside the Welsh laws, themselves constituting a noble monument of the early social state of the Welsh race, of which any nation might well be proud. Excluding then, the laws, and also writers on Welsh grammar, prosody, or medicine, but including the Latin writings of Welshmen who wrote on Welsh subject (except Geoffrey of Monmouth, who demands a separate notice) the original Welsh prose literature prior to the Reformation reduces itself to the following:—For the early history of the Welsh we have (1) the history of Gildas, a short chronicle dealing largely with the history of the early wars between the Northern Welsh of Cumbria, and, subsequently, those of North Wales allied, with the Mercians on the one hand, and the Angles of Northumbria on the other. This document is shewn by internal evidence

to have been put together at various dates between the years 686 and 756. At a much later period it was appended to the (2) *Historia Britorum* of Nennius, a quite separate work, to which fortunate accident it owes its preservation. The oldest MS. in which it occurs is of the early part of the twelfth century, which can be proved, however, to have been a copy of an older MS. of the end of the tenth century. This work is in Latin, but bears the distinctest marks of having been translated from the Welsh. It begins by giving the genealogies of the various Anglian and Saxon ruling families of the time, hence its designation as "The Genealogies of the Saxon Kings." (3) The old *Annales Cambrie* in Latin, occurring only in the MS. last referred to, but proved from internal evidence to have been composed in their present form between 954 and 977. These are of the greatest value, though it must be confessed that the entries in them are of a very meagre and scanty character. They extend from 444 to 954. (4) Three later Chronicles, two in Latin, ending in the year 1288, and preserved in MSS. of that date. The earlier part of these is a copy of the older *Annales* with very few additions. The third is the *Brud y Tywysogion*, a Welsh Chronicle, beginning at 681 and ending at 1282, and existing in various forms, of which the oldest and best is certainly largely (in its earlier part entirely) translated from the Latin Annals just mentioned, the translator being a very ignorant man, making the most ludicrous mistakes in translation. It should here be mentioned that a most important supplement to the earlier part of these Chronicles is to be found in the works of the Irish and English Annalists, Chroniclers or Historians, who mention events connected with Wales or the Welsh race. The most valuable of the Irish materials for this purpose are the Annals of Tighearnach and the Annals of Ulster; and of the Anglo-Saxon materials the Ecclesiastical History of Bede, who died in 735, the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle and various other Northumbrian writers. In addition to the above there is one historical tract in Welsh at least as old as the 13th century, the life of Gruffydd ab Cynan, Prince of North Wales, who lived from 1075 to 1137. To proceed to the Welsh documents which are not in the strictest sense historical, but from which, if they are judiciously used and critically compared with other records, much history can be extracted, the following documents fall under this category: The Old Welsh Genealogies. These may be divided into two classes, the genealogies of the Welsh Princes and those of the Welsh Saints. Of the first the oldest specimen is appended to the old *Annales Cambrie*, already mentioned, and was compiled about the same time, i.e. towards the end of the 10th century. A MS. of the 13th century, containing genealogies of the Northern Welsh or Cumbrians, is preserved in the Hengwrt Collection, and an extensive collection of Cambrian North Welsh and South Welsh Genealogies, transcribed in the 14th century from an older original, is in the Library of Jesus College, Oxford. Hardly any of these genealogies have yet been published. Of the Achau y Saint, the oldest MSS. are of the 13th century. One is published in the Myvyrian Archaeology, another in *Y Cymmrodor*, others remain in MS. at Peniarth and elsewhere. The next class of documents is that of the Lives of Welsh Saints, in which those of South Wales largely preponderate. These are mostly in Latin but occasionally in Welsh. The chief MS. in which the Latin lives are preserved is of the early 13th, and the oldest in which the Welsh lives of SS. David and Beuno occur is of the late 13th century. Most of these lives, but not all, have been published. One of the most valuable lives for historical purposes is the life of St. Kentigern, composed in the 12th

century, which throws much light on the history of Cumbria at the end of the 6th and beginning of the 7th centuries. Among this class of documents may appropriately be placed the *Liber Landavensis* or *Chartulary of Llandaff*, compiled in the 12th century from older documents, and full of important references to the History of South Wales. I need hardly say that many of these lives are less valuable as sources of Welsh History than as sources of Welsh legends and mythology. This brings us to the prose documents which fall almost entirely under the latter category, which are (a great part of) Nennius' *Historia Britonum*, composed in Wales in 822, where we find the earliest mention of the well-known Welsh legends of the Saxon Conquest, and such of the Welsh *Mabinogion* as are of native origin; together with numerous shorter tales, scattered in various Welsh collections, of which a considerable number are printed in the *Iolo MSS.* I may add that many fragments of genuine Welsh legend are to be found in such of the *Mabinogion* as bear evidence of having been adapted or translated from Romance originals, and in the smaller details embodied and introduced in the Welsh versions of Geoffrey of Monmouth, but not occurring in the original work. In the celebrated work of Geoffrey of Monmouth himself, written in the 12th century, much of the genuine Welsh tradition of his time is undoubtedly embodied, but it is so inextricably mixed with matter of his own invention, and used by him with such an utter want of what I may venture to call Welsh historical conscientiousness, that it is of not much value for purposes of historical investigation. It is remarkable how very little direct influence Geoffrey had on the indigenous Welsh literature, and how the Welsh writers of the 13th and 14th centuries, although they had Geoffrey before them in a variety of translations, instinctively preferred and used their native traditions in their native dress rather than that in which Geoffrey had so fancifully bedizened them. I may add that the oldest versions of the Historical Triads, with which I propose to deal, are for the most part entirely independent of Geoffrey of Monmouth. If I am right in assuming that a great deal of early Welsh history, legend, or tradition has been lost, whether from a national neglect to record passing events and traditions, or from the loss of the documents in which such events and traditions were recorded, it is evident that a collection of classified memoranda made as early as the 13th century, which would, if wholly drawn from a now-existing body of record, have merely a slender literary or antiquarian value, is converted by the fact that it is largely drawn from a body of record that has long since perished into a document of the highest value and importance. Such a collection are the Historical Triads. I pause here to say a few words about one of the most curious literary characteristics of the Celtic race, or at least of all those branches of it which have preserved their nationality till modern times, viz., the tendency which they all more or less display for arranging similar facts, circumstances, or ideas in Triads. This tendency seems to have been as universal with the Gaelic as with the British branch of the Celtic race. In the writings of Irish scholars are to be found numerous allusions to Irish Triads preserved in medieval MSS., while proverbial Triads still exist, or lately did so, in the speech of the Highlands of Scotland. By the southern branch of the British stock indeed, separated in the 5th and 6th centuries into Cornish and Breton, no Triads that I know of have been preserved, but this is probably to be accounted for by the fact that the indigenous and original literature of Cornwall has entirely perished with the exception of a few scraps, while that of Brittany is only preserved in a very modern form, for there is preserved in Breton a curious indication that

the Bretons formerly had the same tendency to the Triadic mode of thinking as their Welsh cousins. They still call a very great wonder *Trédémaz*, which literally means "the third wonder," *Trédé* answering to the Welsh *Trydydd*, *Trydedd*, third, and *maz* being the common Cornish word *marth*, a wonder. I need hardly say that an expression meaning "the third wonder" came to signify "a very great wonder," in consequence of the obvious literary device by which the third or last member of a series of three was made to form the culminating member of the series. So *Cynddelw*, the celebrated and very difficult Welsh poet of the 12th century, in his fine lines on the lamentation for the death of *Madog ab Meredydd*, compares his *teulu* or "retinue" to the *Trydydd tri diwair teulu*, "the third of the three loyal retinues," the allusion being to a well-known Triad, of which I shall have occasion to speak later on. It hardly needs pointing out that the Triadic form has, and can have, little or no literary merit when merely used to classify three exactly similar facts, as is mostly the case in the historical Triads, and the very extensive collection of law Triads, which were compiled out of the various codes of Welsh laws. I cannot indeed help thinking that the *raison d'être* of both the legal and historical Triads was to some extent not literary, but educational, and that they were partly compiled with the same object as the Welsh historical englynion of a later age, to assist those who wished to fix in their minds the leading facts of Welsh law and early history, and the leading episodes of early Welsh legend and poetry. The real literary capabilities of the Triadic form, which are by no means inconsiderable, only appear when there is some difference or contrast, as well as some similarity between the members of the Triad. In other words the Triad is a capital vehicle for pointed epigram or sententious aphorism, and there is nothing that a good Triad of this description more resembles than a good Greek or Latin epigram. The triple grouping supplies the same element of form (so essential a factor of epigrammatic composition) as in the classical epigram is supplied by the metre and the synthetic structure of the language. This special merit of which the Welsh Triad is capable, is very largely exemplified in the extensive collections of Aphoristic Triads to be found in the *Myvyrian Archæology* and the *Barddas*. I give a few examples from the earliest collection of Aphoristic Triads that I know, the one contained in the Red Book of Hergest and *Hengwrt MS.*, 202, and printed in the *Cymmrodor*, Vols. 3 and 7. This collection, from the frequent later transcripts of it, appears long to have retained its popularity in Wales—

Tri glwth byd : mor, ac arglwydd, a dinas.

(The three greedy ones of the world : the sea, a feudal lord, and a city.)

Tri pheth a syth ar ddyn heb wybod iddo : hun, a benaint, a phechod.

(Three things that fall on man, him unconscious : sleep, old age, and sin.)

I need hardly dwell on the fact that the Triadic form is still a living and flourishing one in Welsh poetical literature, and on the excellence of many well known Pennillion constructed in it, many of which are published, whilst many others are still living in the mouths of the people in Wales. To proceed to the Historical Triads; by this term I mean to designate those collections of Welsh Triads which exclusively commemorate persons and events belonging to the domain of Welsh History, Tradition, and Legend. The title is now a pretty well stereotyped one, and was first imposed by some former generation of Welsh Historical Antiquaries; a body of men which until quite recently was prone to treat Welsh Legendary lore as

serious history, or at least not to draw the line very distinctly between History and Legend. The title *Historical Triads* is perhaps as good a one as can be found to accentuate the distinction between the well marked class of Welsh Triads which it purports to designate, and the other groups of Welsh Triads, such as the Legal, Bardic, and Ethical Triads already referred to. It is, however, open to two objections. One is that the words "history" and "historical" are used in two different senses, a wider and a narrower one: and it is only a portion of the so-called *Historical Triads* that can be said to be historical in the stricter and more usual sense of that adjective. Another objection is that there has for some time been a tendency to use the term as denoting not the whole body of Welsh Triads, which deal with Welsh History, Tradition, and Legend, but only one member of the class, viz., the third and last of the three collections of such Triads published in the *Myvyrian Archæology*. This inexact nomenclature has of course led to much confusion, nor is it easy to see why the latest of all the versions of the "*Historical Triads*" should monopolize that designation to the exclusion of the rest. As an instance of the mistakes produced even in our times by adherence to the popular delusion of which this nomenclature is either the cause or the embodiment, I may quote the following from Elton's "*Origins of English History*" (published, 1882), a work generally as remarkable for profundity of research as it is fascinating in style (p. 2), "*The Welsh bards indulged their fancy in describing the state of Britain before the arrival of man. According to the authors of the earliest Triads the swarms of wild bees in the woods gave its first name to the Isle of Honey, and the first settlers were supposed to marvel at the bears and wolves, the humped cattle of the forest, and the colonies of beavers in the streams.*" Now, this is a very picturesque passage, but not one of these statements occurs in any early version of the Triads. The name of *Y Fel Ynys*, which admits of being translated *Honey Island*, occurs in a short tract containing a brief description of Britain at least as old at the 13th century, which has nothing to do with the Triads as originally composed, but was first amalgamated with them by Gwilym Tew in 1445. The reason why *Y Fel Ynys* was so called is not given in any version of the Triads that I have seen, but is mere etymological inference, while the statement about the indigenous fauna of Britain only occurs in the most modern of all the versions of the Triads, and in a variant from another version (I believe unpublished) in Iolo Morganwg's collection. There is another passage in the same work, which says that *Hu Gadarn* and the emigration of the *Cymry* under his leadership from the Land of Summer, is recorded in the Triads (see *Origins of English History*, pp. 250-251). *Hu Gadarn* is mentioned in no version of the Triads but the most modern one. The genuine old Welsh legend of the settlement of Britain, occurring in the topographical tract already mentioned, is one of a colonization not by *Hu Gadarn*, nor yet by *Brutus*, but by an eponymous *Prydain ab Aedd Mawr*. To resume the discussion about the term *Historical Triads*, it should be added that the Welsh term is *Trioedd Ynys Prydain*, but this very appropriate Welsh designation loses both in conciseness and in point by being translated into English. The designation of "*The Welsh Triads*," unfortunately used by Professor Rhys as the heading of his very useful reprint of the *Red Book Triads* in the *Cymmrodor*, is a most unprecise one, as the *Historical Triads* only form one class, and a very small one, of the vast quantity of Triads which Welsh literature contains.

(To be Continued.)

JUNE 2, 1886.

NOTES.

THE WELSH FLANNEL TRADE.—FIRST CARDING ENGINE BROUGHT INTO MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—Some ten or more years ago an old acquaintance of mine, Mr William Thickens, who emigrated to America and settled at Shenandoah, in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, paid a visit to Newtown—he stayed with me a few days, and in one of the many conversations I had with him he said, "Do you know that it was my grandfather who brought the first carding engine into the county?" Of course I did not know, and I was anxious for further information. He then gave me the following particulars, which I jotted down as he mentioned them, and as *Bye-Gones* is the accepted medium for preserving these fast dying old remembrances, I send them to you. He said that his grandfather was a Mr John Jarman, and the carding engine was put up by him in the Dingle Factory, which was situated about a mile from Newtown. The factory has since been taken down. Mr Jarman married a Miss Jones from the parish of Mochdre, and they had four children, one son and three daughters. Of the son he furnished no particulars, but he said his aunt Sarah Jarman married Mr Richard Owen of the Gwridd, and they had a family of twenty-one children, and his aunt Elizabeth married a Mr William Lewis, who was the father of Mr Richard Lewis, formerly a bookseller at Newtown. That his mother Mary married William Thickens, and that he, my informant, had a brother who died without children. My informant married, *first*, Sarah, daughter of John Spoonley, uncle of Mr Richard Spoonley, formerly of Newtown, by whom he had one son, John Spoonley Thickens, then of Shenandoah, and *secondly*, he married Caroline Rigger Thomas, by whom he had two daughters, Mary Ella, and Clara Della, and they then were living with him at Shenandoah.

PEARMAN.

SIR WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN.—I have temporarily in my possession a quarto pamphlet of 26 pp. entitled, "*A Poem, sacred to the Memory of the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, Bart.*" By Richard Rolt, author of *Cambria*. London: Printed for W. Owen, Publisher, at Homer's Head, near Temple-Bar. M DCC XLIX. Price One Shilling."

The Poem is "most respectfully inscribed" to "The Honourable Lady Wynne," and extends to 385 highly eulogistic lines. The reader is asked at the outset:—

Did e'er perfection seal the stamp of man,
With greater lustre, than what nature gave,
To honour'd, lov'd, rever'd, lamented WYNNE!

And the poet replies himself:—

No; not the venerable names of Greece,
Or Rome, transmit us, more deserv'd applause.

After a rapid glance at his early years, the poet follows his hero to Oxford:—

See WYNNE, with unabated steep, attain
Oxonia's praise; the cherished muses, there
His mind relumin'd, with the sacred lore
Of classic treasure: whence the manly flow

Of Attic eloquence, the Roman flame,
Imbib'd, shot thro' his soul; luxuriant spread;
And flourish'd, branching out in all the prime
Of blooming nature, delicately fair.

Sir Watkin's return to Parliament is described in a high-flown passage, from which the following is culled :—

When Brunswick left

The banks of Leina, and the Thames receiv'd
Her German monarch, lo! the public casts
Her eye on WYNNE; nor youth more worthy deems,
To grace the British senate; where, amid
The great assembly, early, he displays
The force of elocution, with a grace
That e'en from Walpole could extort applause,
Could even please that statesman, whom his voice
Oppos'd; who, trembling, heard the wise debate
So artfully maintain'd; trembled to hear
The youthful sage, so diligently trace
The maze of politics; and, with the rays
Of truth, elucidating ev'ry scheme,
Darkly pernicious to the British worth.

We are led to suppose on all hands that the first Sir Watkin was a man of resolution; perhaps some readers of this will be able to supply illustrations in which Walpole trembled before Wynne. The poet then goes on to apostrophise his hero as a "Friend to his country, liberty, and truth," and tells us how often his "gen'rous spirit sigh'd," when by "Ministerial wiles" "sacred freedom" was endangered. "Corruption," we are told, "shudders at the name of WYNNE."

Yes, he, and Stanhope, form'd the bold attempt;
Oppression sunk, the Python lay disgorg'd;
Britannia, smiting, took her martial port,
And sent her vallient legions to the field;
All Gallia trembled, and Iberia shook.

Another passage, on his public life and labours, and we get to something more domestic :—

Ye noble band of patriots, ye who still
Preserv'd integrity, nor basely rose
On Walpole's ruins; say, amid the ring
Of your illustrious train, what hand, what heart,
Exceeded WYNNE, ambitious to expel
The vermin of the State? Like him, how few,
Tenacious of their boasted honour, scorn'd
The venial pension, and the spurious blaze
Of borrow'd titles? O'er the faithless heart
The radiant star is dim, a tinsel ray,
To please the vain; the simple name of WYNNE,
Aspires with brighter lustre to the skies,
Thus nobly fair, and uniformly great.

It is on record that the second Sir Watkin had a peerage offered him, but preferred "the simple name of Wynn." Are we to understand from the foregoing that the first Sir Watkin, also, declined the same offer? Next we have some references to the benefits Sir Watkin conferred on his neighbours :—

Yon holy fane
His bounty rear'd, where the loud solemn bell
Assembles all the rural train, to pay
Their long-neglected reverence to heav'n;
Whose care confined the rapid torrent? Who,
Like Appius, stretch'd the public road? Who drain'd
The deep morass? and cloth'd the naked hill

With pendant woods? Who taught the barren heath
To smile? 'Twas WYNNE! he bade the scanty tide
To flow more nobly; to Devana brought
The freight of commerce, an imperial work!

After this come references to the baronet's well-known hospitality, generosity, &c., and then the author goes on to introduce a delicate matter with very much veiled poetic imagery :—

Mortality learn hence, how frail thy joys,
How ineffectual ev'ry treasure'd hope:
What the blind world, fallacious, deems the source
Of happiness, in one redundant store
Had heav'n on WYNNE conferr'd; one only bliss
Was wanting; years had roll'd away, nor crown'd
His nuptial wishes with a blooming heir.
Fate summon'd first the partner of his joys,
The brightest pattern of excelling worth
That ever reign'd in woman; to her lord
She fondly kind, she, in the mortal hour,
Disclos'd an unexampled scene of love,
Bequeath'd him her approv'd, her dearest friend,
A friend most worthy to divide his heart.
On this connubial hour, auspicious heav'n
Bestow'd the filial blessing; raptures, such
As angels only feel, fill'd the glad breast
Of the transported sire; who fondly hop'd
To see the lovely babe, rise like a star
To cheer the Cambrian wild: alas, but e'er
The lunar queen revolv'd through half the year,
These hopes were clos'd in death! the mother sees
An infant orphan, finds a widow'd bed!

Mortals who are not poets can scarcely be expected to know exactly what angels feel at the birth of babies, so that must be left to the imagination, but the statement that the first wife bequeathed her friend as the second is not, I think, one of the facts of history. All the children by the first marriage having died, there was no direct heir to the estate, and the second marriage was one chiefly caused by this fact. The baronet married Miss Shakerley, and was killed a few months after a son was born. The poet goes on to lament the death of his hero. Not only Cambria is called to mourn, but her neighbours :—

Salopia, see thy sumptuous pile, beneath
Whose feet Sabrina rolls her lucid wave,
Where late came smiling Charity, dropt like
The purest beam from heav'n; there pale disease
Forgets to groan, and poverty to pine;
A palace, not a lazaret. Oh! ye poor,
What comforts have you lost, now WYNNE is gone?
A father, patron, benefactor, friend.

This passage I presume refers to the Infirmary at Shrewsbury, built on the banks of the Severn a couple of years before the first Sir Watkin died. The author next apostrophises the friends of the deceased, "Illustrious Beaufort, Noble Barry," and others who shared his friendship; and ends with an, as yet unfulfilled, astronomic prophecy :—

Let eastern monarchs proud mausoleums pile,
Fond to perpetuate an idle reign:
Equestrian statues, and the lawrell'd brow
Of Cæsar's icon, let the flatter'd prince
Ignobly raise: thy memory, WYNNE, requires
No glittering trophies, to record thy praise:
Virtue will triumph o'er the grave; nor death

Can sully honour ; and, when honest time
Roots out the false inscription from the base
Of monumental vanity, thy fame
Tradition more securely shall convey,
To distant ages ; while the curious sage,
With Galilean tube, as he describes
The host of heav'n, some new discover'd star
Shall first observe, and honour with thy name.

There are several references in the foregoing that need explaining.

NEMO.

QUERIES.

THOMAS OF COED HELEN.—Can any of your correspondents give me the crest and armorial bearings of the Thomas of Coed Helen family ; and can they direct me how I can obtain the pedigree of that family ?

F.P.

MORRIS DANCING AND MAY DAY GAMES.
Are there any lingering remembrances of these once popular amusements of our forefathers, either in Shropshire or the border counties ?

MERLIN.

REPLIES.

RANDLE HOLME (May 12, 1886).—In reply to your correspondent, "W.O.," it will afford me great pleasure to furnish him, and other readers of *Bye-Gones*, with some particulars of the four Randle Holmes, but for a few weeks I am otherwise engaged, and cannot devote the time to the subject, but I will not forget it.

PEARMAN.

CURRENT NOTES.

The volume of the *Gentleman's Magazine Library* (edited by Mr G. L. Gomme and published by Mr Elliot Stock) now before us "begins a new section of the vast quantity of interesting and valuable material printed in the *Gentleman's Magazine*." The scattered papers on pre-historic and early historic archaeology are collected, and Part I. of "Archæology" is the result. Many of the most interesting and valuable accounts of antiquarian discoveries, in the days which preceded what we may call the archaeological revival, were sent to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and in this slightly volume we have, arranged under various headings, a large number of communications from various parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland. Wales also sends contributions, but, considering the antiquarian wealth of the Principality, they are very few in number ; and they are confined to South Wales. The volume is divided into sections dealing with Geologic and Pre-historic Remains, Early Historic Remains, Sepulchral Remains, and Encampments, Earthworks, &c., and it will be easily understood how useful it is to the antiquary to have these scattered papers brought together for reference and comparison. Many of the remains here described have probably disappeared, leaving no other record, for in the days when these accounts were written antiquities were little regarded, and too often carted away ! The older of these collected papers are interesting in another way. Placed side by side with the writings of the present day they show the remarkable change which has come to pass in the methods of observation and expression, and the feelings with which the works of nature as well as the productions of men were regarded. Thus a traveller in 1770 writes of "the dropping cove at Slaines" in the North of Scotland, "It is the most horrible cavern I ever beheld, and I own I passed (the entrance) with no little fear. When we were

entered the astounding height of the hollow rock struck such a gloom as cannot be described. . . Such is the general prospect of this dreadful hollow. But what is still more striking, and fills the mind with the most awful ideas of the wonderful operations of nature, is the appearance of the stellactick pillars." The writer adds "I recollect the strange sensation with which I was affected at the sight of it with the most awful dread." Modern travellers seem to have got rid of "a awful dread," and take everything with too much equanimity.

How to Form a Library, by H. B. Wheatley (London, Elliot Stock) is a dainty volume of "The Book Lover's Library." We may doubt whether anyone who is forming a library for the love of it can be greatly helped by advice, but Mr Wheatley has brought out an interesting book, and collected a good deal of useful information. People who have no thoughts of forming a library will read this volume with pleasure and find entertainment in its pages, with their stories of well-known men. Napoleon, of course, had magnificent notions of a library. One of his schemes for a camp library was to cost £163,200, but before it was finished he was at St. Helena. Coleridge would cut the leaves of a book with a butter knife !

The Pleasures of a Bookworm, by J. Rogers Rees, is another of Mr Stock's volumes, with delightful margins, tasteful binding, and good printing, books which are a pleasure to the eye. Mr Rees's volume is a collection of odds and ends about interesting books and their possessors, and scarcely lends itself to criticism.

Our Forefathers in the Dark Ages, by R. E. Blunt, also comes from Mr Stock, and will be read with particular pleasure by the laudator temporis acti. Mr Blunt has discharged a useful task in bringing before modern England a sketch of what England was in what are called the dark ages, and it must not be supposed from what we have said that Mr Blunt is a fanatical admirer of the past. He tries in the main to give a true picture, and does not omit the dark shadows.

A paper on *Welsh University Local Examinations in Wales*, by Mrs Bryant, D.Sc., has been published for the National Eisteddfod Association at the South Wales Printing Works, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.

† *Etchings of Ye Olde Towne of Shrewsbury*.—We have received a set of Artist's Proof Copies of these admirable etchings, specially drawn and etched by Mr A. E. Smith of London, and published by Mr Laing of Shrewsbury. They have been executed with great taste and skill. We commend them to lovers of old architecture and admirers of good etchings. The delightful old timbered houses with their picturesque gables, which are the subjects of these sketches, and which, sad to say, in Shrewsbury as elsewhere are disappearing one by one before modern "improvements," are peculiarly adapted to this process, with its soft and suggestive effects and indescribable charm. The etchings are six in number, the size being 9 by 6, and the subjects, which illustrate some of the most interesting features of Old Shrewsbury, are the following :—Butcher Row, Ireland's Mansion ; Grope Lane ; Old Houses, Frankwell ; Old Club House, Frankwell ; and Golden Cross Passage, High-street. The issue of Artist's Proof Sets is limited to 250, and they will be supplied to subscribers in a portfolio at the price of one guinea and a half a set.

† *Etchings of Ye Olde Towne of Shrewsbury* ; drawn and etched by Alfred E. Smith. Published by James Laing, 33, Castle-street, Shrewsbury.

At a recent meeting of the Liverpool Naturalists' Field Club, held at Tremereichion Caves, Mr Bouverie Luxmoore stated that the Vale of Clwyd was evidently caused by a subsidence, as the rocks on either side corresponded. This probably occurred before the glacial period, about 250,000 years ago. In the caves were found bones of the lion, mammoth, rhinoceros, bear, reindeer, horse, hyena, &c., some in great numbers, and some flint implements.

THE RECENT FLOODS.—Mr Thomas Groves, the Shropshire county surveyor, has reported to the Finance Committee of the Court of Quarter Sessions that three county bridges are wholly destroyed, i.e., Onibury, Myndtown, and Clunbury. Besides this about eighteen county bridges have been more or less damaged.—Last week a bridge on the Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway, near Dorrington, was found to be so much damaged by the recent floods that it was deemed advisable to discontinue to traffic upon one set of rails, but a balk connection was promptly laid across and the traffic was resumed.

THE LATE MR JAMES OWEN OF LLANIDLOES.—Mr James Owen of High-street, Llanidloes, died on Saturday week. Mr Owen was formerly sergeant of police in the county force, having joined in 1840. He was superannuated in 1875. Deceased, who was in his 81st year, leaves a numerous family, amongst his sons being the Rev Elias Owen, M.A., Rector of Efenechtyd, and Diocesan Inspector in St. Asaph Diocese, the Rev Elijah Owen, Beaumaris, the Rev T. E. Owen, M.A., Vicar of St. Nicholas, Leicester, and Mr T. Morgan Owen, M.A., H.M. Inspector of Schools. The funeral took place last Wednesday, at Llanidloes.

THE SHERIFFS OF SHROPSHIRE.—The publication of the supplementary volume to the Rev J. B. Blakeway's "Sheriffs of Shropshire" is announced by Messrs Bunny and Davies for the end of this month. The genealogical and biographical notices are verified by references to those they concern, or to state or county documents. The original notices of the Shropshire Sheriffs, as published by Mr Blakeway, extended from the Norman Conquest to 1830. The present continuation enumerates, therefore, fifty-six subsequent holders of the office. Subjected to revision by the families concerned, the biographical notices were written by the late Mr W. Hughes of Shrewsbury. No effort has been spared to make the continuation a perfect imitation of the original work. In order to do this, special paper, type, and armorial bearings to correspond, have been used.

MEMORIAL WINDOW TO THE LATE ARCHDEACON CLIVE. A beautiful memorial window has been placed in St. Mary's Church, Welshpool, by the Hon. Mrs J. R. Bridgeman, in memory of her father, the late Archdeacon Clive, who was for forty-six years vicar of that parish. The window was executed by Mr Roberts, Holly Bush, Welshpool. The exterior is of Alverley stone, and the interior of Shelvoke, the drawings by the late Mr Street, and the glass by Messrs Burlington and Grylls, London, representing six scenes in the life of St. Paul. A sermon was preached on Sunday by the Rev D. P. Lewis, rural dean, formerly curate of Welshpool. He alluded to the many works carried out by the Archdeacon in aid of education, the increase of church accommodation, and secular charities. Under his auspices the National Schools, the Belan School, the New Church, the Dispensary, the Reading Room, the Savings Bank, and the Clothing Club, were inaugurated for the benefit of the inhabitants of the parish.

DEATH OF MR JACKSON SALTER.—In the death of Mr Jackson Salter, which took place early on Wednesday morn-

ing May 26, Oswestry has lost one of its best known and oldest inhabitants. Through life he enjoyed robust health, and it was only in the last few months that he for the first time was prevented, by decaying health, from leaving his bedroom. He retained perfect consciousness until within two days of his death, and he passed away in sleep in the early hours of Wednesday morning. Mr Salter, who was born on the 12th June, 1799, was the second son of Capt. Richard Salter of the Candy, a gentleman who at different times held commissions in the Fifeshire Regiment of Fencible Infantry and in the Shropshire Local Militia. Whilst with his regiment in Ireland, Capt. Salter married a Londonderry lady, and Mr Jackson Salter was born in Ireland. At the time of the battle of Waterloo Mr Jackson Salter was approaching an age when he ought to adopt some pursuit; his inclinations led him to follow his father's profession, but the old captain convinced him that Waterloo being past there would be no opportunity of gaining military distinction for a very long time. He then settled with his father at the Candy, and led a life of rural leisure, to which he was always much attached. He had an uncle of the same name as himself, who, at one time, carried on business as a printer and stationer in Brook-street, and who subsequently removed into Montgomeryshire. A similar business was also carried on by a Mr Edwards in Bailey-street; Mr Jackson Salter married Miss Edwards, who survives him, and for about twenty years he carried on business as a printer and stationer in Church-street, retiring from business some years ago. His widow and one son, Mr Kyffin Salter, survive him. Mr Salter took a considerable part in the municipal life of the town; in 1852 he was elected a member of the Town Council, a position which he held until 1877, when he was elected an alderman. In the meantime he had served the office of mayor—in 1866-7—and in August, 1868, he was elected a director of the Oswestry Incorporation, an office which he discharged with regularity until a short time ago. He was also a trustee of the Savings Bank and a member of the Committee of the Dispensary. He more than once declined to allow his name to be added to the roll of borough magistrates, and true to his principles of sturdy honesty he always declined to solicit the vote of a burgess as a candidate for the Town Council. The family he represented is an ancient one; his father died at the age of 90, in 1849, and his grandfather occupied the picturesque old house in Cross-street as a banker, a watchmaker, and a timber merchant. The remains of the deceased gentleman were interred in one of the four family vaults in the Old Churchyard on Saturday. The service was taken by the Vicar, and amongst the members of the Corporation who attended were—the Mayor (Mr Robert Lloyd), Aldermen Minshall, Owen, and Thomas; Councillors Fletcher Rogers, Whitfield, Lacon, Soley Evans, and Drew; Mr W. Jackson, deputy-town clerk, Mr Wakelam, borough surveyor, and Mr Glascodine, finance clerk. Mr Kyffin Salter was the chief mourner, and amongst those who followed the remains were Mr Christopher Bull, Mr George Savin, Mr John Williams, and others.

THE VYRNWY MASONRY EMBANKMENT.

The reports of Major-General Sir Andrew Clarke and Mr Russell Aitken as to the construction and strength of the Vyrnwy masonry have just been issued to the members of the Liverpool City Council. After referring to the probable causes of failure of masonry dams, Sir Andrew says of the Vyrnwy embankment:—"The geological conditions appear to be singularly favourable, and I see no reason to entertain any doubt on this ground. I have satisfied myself that there is in the design an unusually large margin

of safety in whatever way the assumption as to the distribution of stress may be made, and I have closely inspected the workmanship and materials, both as now employed and by means of samples, at various stages since the commencement of the work." In concluding his report he remarks—"To sum up, I am of opinion that the building of the wall is being well and skillfully carried out, and that the section is so enormously in excess of actual requirements, as evidenced by comparison with other existing masonry dams, that nothing short of an earthquake could possibly disturb it."

In his report, Mr Russell Aitken says that in the course of his investigations he took nothing for granted, and then proceeds to furnish technical details of the foundation of the dam, its shape, the workmanship, the outlet sluices, drainage culverts, &c. The following are the conclusions at which Mr Aitken arrives:—1st, That the cross-section of the embankment or dam is abundantly strong; and so far as a most careful inspection of the work can enable me to arrive at a conclusion, the work itself is being carried out exactly as it was from the first, viz.—in a substantial and workmanlike manner, and so that it will, when completed, answer the purpose for which it was intended. Secondly, the quality of work in the Vyrnwy dam is as good as it can be; and the tests show that it, and the material employed, leave nothing to be desired, and that no expense has been spared to attain this object. Thirdly, that in the higher portions of the dam, where the pressures are below four tons per square foot, the amount of the cement in the work may, if desired, safely be diminished. Fourthly, the designs for the outlet works for the compensation water should be carefully reconsidered. Fifth, the inside face of the dam should be covered with a composition consisting of a mixture of cement, sand, and ground slate."

JUNE 9, 1886.

NOTES.

BURNING IN THE HAND IN 1759.—"1759, Sept. 6th.—The Special Verdict found at the last Chester Assize, on the remarkable trial of John Stephenson for the Murder of Mr. Francis Elcock, Attorney, was argued at Chester before the Hon Mr Justice Noel, Chief Justice of Chester, and Taylor White, Esq., the other Justice. The Court took time till the following morning for delivering their opinion, and accordingly on Friday morning about Eight o'clock, Mr Justice Noel in a learned and pathetic speech supported by adjudged cases, and the doctrine of the wisest sages of the law, and also by arguments of reason and conscience, declared his opinion, that the prisoner's crime found by the special verdict, could amount at most to manslaughter only. *Whereupon the prisoner was burnt in the hand, and discharged from the indictment for murder.*" I extract this from the *Annual Register*. M.

DAROWEN. — SINGULAR FUNERAL CUSTOMS.—In this parish sixty or eighty years ago, funerals were public, and the greater the esteem the deceased was held in, the larger the attendance. The officiating Minister and Clerk were paid by offerings, and received at times large sums of money. At my grandfather's funeral the clergyman received upwards of fourteen pounds, and the Clerk more. The persons who attended the funerals were served with cake and spiced ale, and doubtless other more substantial refreshments,

at the residence of the then deceased, and what is more singular, again as passing through the Lych-gate entering the Church-yard; the money to defray the latter entertainment was provided, not by the relatives of the deceased, but by the resident parishioners, and it was a custom for all who attended the funeral, both female and male, if they were parishioners, to send *sixpence* each to the village Inn, the occupant of which provided the spiced ale and cake. There were sometimes as many as four women engaged in dispensing the cake and ale, one of them holding a large tray with a quantity of cake upon it, a second a small tray enveloped in a white napkin upon which *one* piece of cake was placed, taken from the store on the large tray, and handed to one of those who passed through the Lych-gate. Of the other two women one held a tankard with very hot ale spiced, which was poured into small "tots," and, as in the case of the cake, one was handed by woman number four to each mourner. The balance of the fund from the sixpences was spent in the village Inn, and consumed among a few persons unconnected with the funeral

PEARMAN.

QUERIES.

THE OLD COACHING DAYS (May 26, 1886).—A reminiscence of the last days of coaching, probably on the Holyhead Road, I noted a short time since in the following epitaph on a headstone to a grave in Corwen churchyard:—

"Here lyeth the body of Mary wife of Thomas Williams of the Coach died June 11th 1859 aged 54."

"Here rest the remains of the above named Thomas Williams died 6 May 1853 aged 80."

The deceased husband was no doubt a well-known whip who had probably driven a coach so long, that Williams of the Coach was his distinguishing mark of recognition, as the Wynns of Wynnstay, Wynns of Rhug, and the names of other ancient Welsh families are connected as a mark of distinction with their patrimonial estates. Turning to another subject incident to Corwen churchyard, does any reader of *Bye-Gones* know the name of the family whose vault is enclosed within a corner of the outer walls of the church to the left of the main entrance as you enter from the town. The lofty iron rails of the enclosure are rusted by time and weather. The rusty iron gate hangs partly open by one hinge. The coat of arms and crest which surmounts the gate is too broken and dilapidated to indicate with any certainty the arms borne by the family to whom the vault belongs. The inscription on the raised tomb within is worn away. The stump of a sycamore tree stands in one corner with a heap of stone lying round it. Wild weeds luxuriate in the large space within the railing, where all seems desolate, neglected, and forgotten.

AMGEINIAD ELLAN.

Cefn-y-Maes.

REV. HUMPHREY WYNN, M.A.—Will some contributor to *Bye-Gones* kindly say when and where this reverend gentleman, Master of the Free School and Vicar of Oswestry, about 1660, died; and whether there is any further information respecting him than is contained at page 227 of "Eminent Welshmen."

BEN.
11

CURRENT NOTES.

A new church was consecrated last week by the Bishop of St. Davids as Llanyre, near Llandrindod Wells.

A chalybeate spring has been discovered at the picturesque village of Pontrhydfendigaid, near Strata Florida, which has for many years been a favourite resort, during the summer months, of a large number of people from Aberystwyth and other places. A sample of the water was sent upon analysis to contain ten grains solid matter in one gallon, which consisted chiefly of iron, lime, and magnesia in combination with carbonic acid, and calcium in combination with sulphuric and hydrochloric acids.

A Waterloo veteran, Mr Mathew Marsh of Aberystwyth, died on Friday at the advanced age of ninety-two. The deceased entered the navy when a youth, and afterwards the army, and served in the battle of Waterloo, where he lost the tip of one of his fingers, which was struck by a ball. He marched to Paris, and was afterwards for some time in India. Returning to England, he lived in Kent, and afterwards removed to South Wales, where he was engaged for very many years in driving coaches, which occupation he gave up when the railway was opened to Aberystwyth, twenty-two years ago. Twelve years ago the Government granted him a pension, upon which, and the kind assistance of relatives and friends, he has lived. His wife, who had been completely paralysed for a couple of years, and upon whom he attended with the utmost devotion, died only on the previous Sunday. He had a Waterloo medal.

The following are among "Leaves from Our Early Issues," published by the *North Wales Chronicle* (July 10th to August 14th, 1817):—"An old woman, aged 87, a tenant of J. B. Bruce, Esq., of Aberdare, Glamorganshire, drove the oxen and held the plough for nine hours, on the 17th ult. This may be considered a remarkable instance of labour and exertion."—"The new London, Shrewsbury and Holyhead mail by Coventry (ten miles nearer than by Oxford) arrived in this city for the first time this morning at six o'clock, and would be at Holyhead before ten, from whence the up mail will be despatched at five in the afternoon. The post will reach Carnarvon and Beaumaris between eight and nine, and will not go out before five. The North letters, which were until yesterday conveyed in a mail cart, with the driver armed, between Chester and Chirk, are now conveyed in the same way between Chester and Bangor by Conway. The Chester and Holyhead mail coach continues without any alteration."

THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES.—The Council of the University College of Wales have awarded premiums offered for the best three designs for the new College at Aberystwyth as follows:—First prize (£100), Mr Fred. Bonham, Finsbury-pavement, London; second (£50), Steward and Thomas, Cardiff; third (£25), T. G. Williams, Liverpool.

AN INGENIOUS INVENTION has been patented by Mr J. S. Cheeseman, engineer, of Oswestry, who is in the Cambrian Railways Offices. It is called "Cheeseman's Lock-joint railway chair." The invention relates to the joints of the rails of permanent ways, and has for its object the increased rigidity of the joint and its maintenance in a rigid condition after it is once made.

ADMIRAL SIR JOHN CORBETT, who received the dignity of K.C.B. on the birthday of her Majesty, is the son of the late Mr Uvedale Corbett of Aston Hall, Shropshire, was born in 1822, entered the Royal Navy in 1835, and served in the operations in Syria in 1840. He commanded the rocket boat at the destruction of Lagos, in the Chinese

War of 1857, and in the North China Expedition in 1860. He was A.D.C. to her Majesty from 1870 till 1875, and was appointed Commander-in-Chief at the Nore in 1884. Admiral Corbett, who is a magistrate for Norfolk, married in 1864, Georgina Grace, daughter of Mr G. Holmes of Brooke, Norfolk.

BURLEYDAM PARISH CHURCH.—The Bishop of Chester has lately reconsecrated the Parish Church of SS Mary and Michael, Burleydam, near Whitchurch. The building was originally constructed in the Georgian style, and is described as being "the exact counterpart of a wayside Nonconformist chapel." Under the direction of Mr Bowers, however, a new chancel, organ-chamber, and vestry have now been added; the west end has been rebuilt with a new bell-turret, and a north porch has been erected. The windows of the nave have been reconstructed and filled with tracery; and the internal fittings are now suitable and churchlike. The alterations have cost £2,000, and accommodation is provided for 200 persons.

SCIENCE AND ART CLASSES.—The report of the Science and Art Department for the past year has been issued. One gold medal—the highest award—came to a student in a Shropshire School of Art. In Shrewsbury School of Art there were 149 students. Forty-three were examined in the second grade, 17 were successful, and 5 obtained prizes. Twelve candidates' papers, including some which, through inadvertence, were worked in one section of perspective only, were examined in the third grade; four candidates' papers were marked successful, 66 students sent up 299 works for examination, payments were made on 64 artisans, and to one student a prize was awarded. In Welshpool School of Art there were 70 students. Twenty-three were examined in the second grade, 13 were successful, and four obtained prizes. In the third grade examination one candidate's papers were examined, 29 students sent up 176 works, and payments were made on 24 artisans. Instruction in drawing is given in 30 elementary day schools in Shropshire.

JUNE 16, 1886.

NOTES.

A WELSH INSCRIPTION.—A PRACTICAL JOKE.—I was told, some years ago, while staying at Trefriw, and searching up that district for traditional and other remnants of by-gone days, of the existence of a large stone somewhere in the vicinity of Dolwyddelan, lying near a mountain path, having on it these Welsh inscriptions. On the Obverse the following decoying invitation:—

"TRO FI MI DDEYDA DI BETH."

[Turn me I'll tell you a thing.]

This proved a tempting bait to many a wayfarer, who, curious to know what was on the other side, strained and struggled to turn it over, which, when done, he found to his chagrin, on the Reverse, this tantalizing communication,

"POTES POETH SY' DDA I FWYDO CRYSTIA."

[Hot broth is good to soften crusts.]

followed by this further significant request,

"TRO FI 'NOL I DWYLLO 'R NESA!"

[Turn me back again to deceive the next.]

Then accepting the joke, and to entrap the next comer, he would buckle to again and turn the stone over.

Can any one give the site of this stone if still remaining? I have mislaid my note as to the place, and so forget where I was told it was. I only fear that it has been built into some enclosure wall. T.W.H.

WELSH SCHOOLMASTERS 40 YEARS AGO.—The following amusing account of Welsh school teachers is from the Report of the Education Commission published in 1847:—

"The present average age of teachers is upwards of 40 years; that at which they commenced their vocation upwards of 30; the number trained is 12½ per cent of the whole ascertained number; the average period of training is 7·30 months; the average income is £22 10s 9d per annum; besides which, 16·1 per cent have a house rent-free. Before adopting their present profession, 6 had been assistants in schools, 3 attorneys' clerks, 1 attorney's clerk and sheriff's officer, 1 apprentice to an ironmonger, 1 assistant to a draper, 1 agent, 1 artilleryman, 1 articulated clerk, 2 accountants, 1 auctioneer's clerk, 1 actuary in a savings' bank, 3 bookbinders, 1 butler, 1 barber, 1 blacksmith, 4 bonnet-makers, 2 booksellers, 1 book-keeper, 15 commercial clerks, 3 colliers, 1 cordwainer, 7 carpenters, 1 compositor, 1 copyist, 3 cabinet-makers, 3 cooks, 1 corn-dealer, 3 druggists, 42 milliners, 20 domestic servants, 10 drapers, 4 excisemen, 61 farmers, 25 farm-servants, 1 farm-bailiff, 1 fisherman, 2 governesses, 7 grocers, 1 glover, 1 gardener, 177 at home or in school, 1 herald-chaser, 4 housekeepers, 2 hatters, 1 helper in a stable, 8 hucksters or shopkeepers, 1 iron-roller, 6 joiners, 1 knitter, 13 labourers, 4 laundresses, 1 lime-burner, 1 lay-vicar, 5 ladies'-maids, 1 lieutenant R.N., 2 land-surveyors, 22 mariners, 1 mill-wright, 108 married women, 7 ministers, 1 mechanic, 1 miner, 2 mineral agents, 5 masons, 1 mate, 1 maltster, 1 militia-man, 1 musician, 1 musical-wire-drawer, 2 nursery-maids, 1 night-schoolmaster, 1 publican's wife (separated from her husband), 2 preparing for the Church, 1 policeman, 1 pedlar, 1 publican, 1 potter, 1 purser's steward, 1 planter, 2 private tutors, 1 quarryman, 1 reed-thatcher, 28 sempstresses, 1 second master R.N., 4 soldiers, 14 shoemakers, 2 machine-weighers, 1 stone-cutter, 1 serjeant of marines, 1 sawyer, 1 surgeon, 1 ship's cook, 7 tailors, 1 tailor and marine, 1 tiler, 17 widows, 4 weavers, and 60 unascertained, or having had no previous occupation. In connection with the vocation of teacher, 2 follow that of assistant-overseer of roads, 6 are assistant-overseers of the poor, 1 accountant, 1 assistant parish clerk, 1 bookbinder, 1 broom and clogmaker, 4 bonnet-makers, 1 sells Berlin wool, 2 are cow-keepers, 3 collectors of taxes, 1 drover (in summer), 12 dressmakers, 1 druggist, 1 farmer, 4 grocers, 3 hucksters or shopkeepers, 1 inspector of weights and measures, 1 knitter, 2 land-surveyors (one of them is also a stonecutter), 2 lodging-house keepers, 1 librarian to a mechanics' institute, 16 ministers, 1 master of a workhouse, 1 matron of a lying-in hospital, 3 mat-makers, 13 preachers, 18 parish or vestry clerks (uniting in some instances the office of sexton), 1 printer and engraver, 1 porter, barber, and layer-out of the dead in a workhouse, 4 publicans, 1 registrar of marriages, 11 sempstresses, 1 shopman (on Saturdays), 8 secretaries to benefit societies, 1 sexton, 2 shoemakers, 1 tailor, 1 teacher of modern languages, 1 turnpike man, 1 tobacconist, 1 writing-master in a grammar school, and 9 are in receipt of parochial relief." V.

VAVASOUR POWELL.—It is generally stated that this eminent Welshman who took such an active part in public affairs during the Commonwealth, was arrested in 1660, imprisoned at Shrewsbury, removed thence

into Montgomeryshire, and subsequently taken to the Fleet Prison in London, where he remained incarcerated till 1662, and then removed to Southsea Castle, near Portsmouth. From the annexed extract, which is official, it would appear he must have been at large before he was imprisoned at Southsea Castle:—"Proceedings in Council, 1662, Aug. 18. A Warrant was issued to Sir Charles Berkeley, Governor of Portsmouth, to take into custody Vavasour Powell and Colonel Rich for Treasonable designs, and keep them close prisoners in Southsea Castle."—*State Papers Domestic*, Vol. 54, 1662. THETA.

QUERIES.

BRACKETS.—The following is from the *Annual Register*:—"1760. 28 June. We hear from Shropshire that an oak was lately felled near Ludlow, in that county, the contents of which are as follows, viz.—36 tons of timber, 42 cords of wood, 200 park poles, and four cords and a half of *Brackets*. A bough broke off before the tree was felled, which weighed seven tons and a half; two men were employed a month in stocking it. The tree was valued at £138." Is *Bracket* a provincialism? It is not in Halliwell, Nares, Holloway, nor Miss Jackson. M.

FYRNWY OR VERNIEW, which is the proper Welsh way of spelling the name of this river? Q.

SHROPSHIRE NAMES.—I observe the name of Coffin in Shropshire. Is not this a corruption of the Welsh name Cyffin? Q.

MACHYNLLETH.—RINGING A HAND BELL BEFORE A FUNERAL.—I remember on one occasion some five and twenty years ago being at Machynlleth, and noticing a person walking somewhat rapidly up Maengwyn-street ringing a small hand bell. I enquired what was the meaning of it. I was told it was a custom there to invite persons to attend a funeral. Very shortly afterwards I saw the funeral pass, the mourners did not move in procession, but were huddled around the bier, women and men intermingled, a custom somewhat similar exists in Brittany. (See Notes and Queries, 1854, vol. ix., p. 478.) Does this custom still exist at Machynlleth? DYFL.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr Rumsey Williams, said to be the oldest solicitor in North Wales, died last week at his residence, Twthill, Carnarvon, aged 86.

The Bone Caves near Nantllys, Tremairchion, have again been investigated by Mr E. B. Luxmoore and Dr. Hicks. The examination resulted in the finding of several bones, together with flint knives, reindeer's horns, and rhinoceroses' teeth (one of which weighed about half a pound.)

The Conversion of Plas Mawr, the ancestral mansion of the Mostyn family, at Conway, into permanent quarters for the Royal Cambrian Academy of Arts, is being proceeded with, under the supervision of Mr Baker, of London, the architect who was entrusted with the restoration of Conway and Holyhead Churches. It is intended to hold an inaugural exhibition towards the close of next month.

A meeting of the Council of the Society for Utilizing the Welsh Language was lately held at Swansea.

Archdeacon Griffiths presided. Among the business transacted was the appointing of an examining Board, consisting of Professors Powel and Roberts of Cardiff, Lloyd of Aberystwyth, Rowlands of Brecon, Michael Jones of Bala, and a representative of the Bangor University, to be hereafter nominated by that Council. This Board is to hold examinations in Welsh grammar, and to grant graded certificates of competency on the results of such examination. A commission was issued for the immediate production of text books for teaching Welsh as a specific subject in elementary schools, and of a special series of reading books suited for Sunday Schools. The preparation of the first series was entrusted to Professor Powel, and of the second to a committee, their work to be submitted to the editorship of Professor Powel. Practical steps were taken to secure an increase in the funds of the Society.

Last week, the annual meeting of the National Society for Preserving the Memorials of the Dead in Churches, Churchyards, &c., was held in London, under the presidency of the Bishop Suffragan of Nottingham (the Right Rev. Dr. Trollope). The report, presented by Mr W. Vincent, the secretary, gave details of many instances in which the operations of the society had been beneficial during the past year. At St. Mary's Church, Swansea, the founder's effigy, which had been removed from the edifice to make room for a doorway, had now been placed in the porch. Among other instances showing the need of a society like this, it was stated that some interesting slabs had been discovered in a rectory stable; and at Drayton, near Banbury, it was found that the bellringer stood, when he rang the bells, upon an alabaster slab on which were incised effigies of a knight and his lady, bearing date 1438. Mr C. Milnes Gaskell, M.P., in moving the adoption of the report, said that at a church in Shropshire, where he had found a new font, he ascertained that the rector had buried the old Norman font underneath it. In another case he had discovered a monument in a coach-house.

The *Chester Chronicle* says:—A very deep cutting is now being made at the Chester Gas Works for the new gas holder tank, and on Thursday morning, when the cutting had reached a depth of 23 feet below the surface, a pig of Roman lead was discovered in a state of excellent preservation. The inscription it bears along the upper surface is as follows:—IMP VESP AVG V T IMP III, while on the side is inscribed DE . CEANGI. Its weight is 192 lbs. The translation of the inscription is that it was a pig of lead, a tribute from the tribe in North Wales commonly known as the Ceangi to the Roman Power. The inscription tells us that it was cast during the fifth consulate of the Emperor Vespasian and the third consulate of Titus. This synchronism with our date A.D. 74, and consequently we may assume that that pig of lead has been lying where it was found some 1800 years. The ground wherein it was discovered was gravel and marl, which evidently formed part of the old river bed. Close to it was found a human skull, and another was found about feet 15 away. The skulls and bones of horses and bullocks were also found in or about the same place. The spot is some 140 or 150 feet within the present river wall, but was very likely when these remains were deposited under water, though perhaps not far from the shore, as was indicated by the finding of the iron point of a Roman pile in close proximity. Fragments of Roman tiles and Roman pottery were also picked up, and several Roman coins of the time of Vespasian and Titus, wonderfully fresh. A similar pig of lead cast in the same year, and a tribute from the same tribe, is in the possession of the Duke of

Westminster, at Eaton, and was found in 1833 on the Tarvin-road. The various relics will no doubt be contributed to the new museum.

The ninth annual meeting of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings was held in London last week, the Hon. Richard C. Grosvenor in the chair. The report contained the following paragraph about Acton Burnell Church, Shropshire:—"This well-known thirteenth century cruciform church is in need of repair. It has been surveyed by two of the society's professional members, and a report stating what the society would wish to see done and left undone has been sent to the rector and churchwardens. The society has, by the courtesy of the architect, seen the drawings for the proposed work, but we are sorry to say the drawings show that far too much work is contemplated. A late timber tower which carries the bells, and which stands at the crossing of the church, ought, in the architect's opinion, to be removed. The timbers of this tower are fairly sound. Viewed externally, it is of perfect proportion, and it adds very greatly to the picturesqueness of the building. Internally, it is somewhat of a disfigurement to the building, but this could be overcome. It is also proposed to add the inevitable vestry (which has spoilt so many of our old churches) on the north side of the chancel. This, if carried out, will partially obliterate the evidence, which at present remains, of a building having once stood in this position. It was in all probability the cell of an anchorite. To destroy the evidences of such a building would certainly be an unardonable offence, and we may add that it is quite unnecessary to do so, as a more suitable vestry could be provided by screening off a portion of the north transept. There are other points in the proposed scheme which do not meet with the committee's approval, and it is felt that less harm would follow from leaving the much needed repairs undone, than from carrying out the proposed scheme."

JUNE 23, 1886.

NOTES.

OLD OSWESTRY WILLS.—Wills of an Earlier date than 1550 relating to Oswestry and Proved at Lamberth:—

Matthew David Cler. "Prest." Dated St. George's Day, 1527. Parson of Counde Church. "To the reparac'on of Oswestre Church, vis. viijd." "To the reparac'on of Shirathyn Church iij. iiij." "To my cousin Edward Harcourt a flatte silver peece, 3 silver spones," &c. To Elynor Harcourt, sundry pieces of plate, bedding, &c. "Gwyrvill Harcourt," "Young Richard Harcourt," mentioned. Probate granted 3d Decr, 1528.

September 12th, 1537.—John ap David ap Reys of Oswestre, Salop. To my two sons Richard and Thomas, begotten by Alice Thorwys 100li between them both, To "Thomas his brother my backhouse with the appurts that I bought after the decease of Elinor ap Rys, and yf they dye without heyres, to my four daughters by Elinor ap Reys." "Nicholas my son, by the said Elinor" is also mentioned. "To the reparac'on of the Church of St. Oswald 10li." Witnessed by John Price Cler., rector of Whittonton, Morys Kyflyn, Edward ap Meredith, Bayliffs, Owen David, Cler., Hugh ap John Abeoyn. (?) and others. After the signatures there follows a long

"Memorandum" containing numerous bequests among which occurs one to "Thomas Elys, my best friend that ever I had, xxxvili." Probate granted 1st Oct., 1539. D.J.

THE LADIES OF LLANGOLLEN (May 12, 1886). In Lockhart's *Life of Walter Scott* is an account, written "from the banks of Windermere," apparently by Lockhart himself, of a visit paid by the "Great Unknown" to these two famous ladies in August 1825. He is (in a footnote) far from vouching for the accuracy of the details, but has given the gossip heard at the time. The sketch deserves a place in *Bye-Gones*. Here it is:—

At Llangollen your papa was waylaid by the celebrated "Ladies," viz., Lady Eleanor Butler and the Honourable Miss Ponsonby, who having been one or both crossed in love, foreswore all dreams of matrimony in the hey-day of youth, beauty, and fashion and selected this charming spot for the repose of their now time-honoured virginity. It was many a day, however, before they could get implicit credit for being the innocent friends they really were among the people of the neighbourhood; for their elopement from Ireland had been performed under suspicious circumstances; and as Lady Eleanor arrived here in her natural aspect of a pretty girl, while Miss Ponsonby had condescended to accompany her in the garb of a smart footman in buckskin breeches, years and years elapsed ere full justice was done to the character of their romance. We proceeded up the hill, and found everything about them and their habitation odd and extravagant beyond report. Imagine two women—one apparently seventy, the other sixty-five—dressed in heavy blue riding habits, enormous shoes, and men's hats, with their petticoats so tucked up, that at the first glance of them, fussing and tottering about their porch in the agony of expectation, we took them for a couple of hazy or crazy old sailors. On near inspection they both wore a world of brooches, rings, etc., and Lady Eleanor positively *orders*—several stars and crosses, and a red ribbon, exactly like a K.C.B. To crown all, they have crop heads, shaggy, rough, bushy, and as white as snow, the one with age alone, the other assisted by a sprinkling of powder. The elder lady is almost blind, and every way much decayed; the other, the ci-devant groom, in good preservation. But who could paint the prints, the dogs, the cats, the miniatures, the cram of cabinets, clocks, glass-cases, books, bijouteri, dragon-china, nodding mandarins and whirligigs of every shape and hue, the whole house outside and in (for we must see everything to the dressing closets) covered with carved oak, very rich and fine some of it . . . Great romance (i.e. absurd innocence of character) one must have looked for; but it was confounding to find this mixed up with such eager curiosity, and enormous knowledge of the tattle and scandal of the world they had so long left. Their tables were piled with newspapers from every corner of the kingdom, and they seemed to have the deaths and marriages of the antipodes at their fingers' ends. Their albums and autographs, from Louis XVIII. and George IV., down to magazine poets and quack-doctors, are a museum. I shall never see the spirit of blue-stockingsism again in such perfect incarnation. Peveril (Scott himself) won't get over their final kissing match for a week. Yet it is too bad to laugh at these good old girls; they have long been the guardian angels of the village, and are worshipped by man, woman, and child about them.

One hardly knows whether to feel the more delight with Lockhart's vivid, humorous, but singularly truthful

Picture of the ladies, who have still the bloom of youth immortal; or regret that Scott was never led to weave around them such romance as only he could have imagined and achieved. J.R.

A GENTLEMAN OF WALES, 1780.—Pennant in his journey from Corsygedol to Harlech was induced by his friend and constant companion, the Rev John Lloyd, to make a detour of a few miles to the right to visit a relative of Mr Lloyd's. Pennant's description is worthy of reproduction in *Bye-Gones*, as exhibiting the character, habits, mode of life, and surroundings of a Welsh gentleman of that day who had not mixed up much with the "madding crowd."

After describing the route they followed, he said:—"After a short ride, high above a lake of the same name (as the residence, namely, Cwmbychan), descend, and reach the house of the Venerable Evan Llwyd, who, with his ancestors, boast of being lords of these rocks, at least since the year 1100. The following is the true descent of Mr Evan Llwyd and my fellow traveller, who being brothers' children are 18th in descent from Bleddyn ap Cynfyn, so it is a genuine copy of the form of a British pedigree:—Evan ap Edward, ap Richard, ap Edward, ap Humphrey, ap Edward, ap Davydd, ap Robert, ap Howel, ap Davydd, ap Meirig Llwyd o Nannau, ap Meirig Vychan, ap Ynyr Vychan, ap Ynyr, ap Meuric, ap Madog, ap Cadwgan, ap Bleddyn, ap Cynfyn, prince of North Wales and Powys.

"I was introduced to the worthy representative of this long line, who gave me the most hospitable reception, and in the style of an Ancient Briton. He welcomed us with ale and potent beer to wash down the *Coch yr Wden*, or hung goat, and the cheese compounded of the milk of cow and sheep.

"He likewise shewed us the ancient family cup, made of a bull's scrotum, in which large libations had been made in days of yore. The family lay in their whole store of winter provisions, being inaccessible a great part of the season, by reason of snow.

"Here they have lived for many generations without bettering or lessening their income, without noisy fame, but without any of its embittering attendants.

"The mansion is a true specimen of an ancient seat of a gentleman of Wales. The furniture rude; the most remarkable are the *cistiau styfflyog*, or the oatmeal chests, which held the essential part of the provision.

"The territories dependant on the mansion extend about four miles each way, and consist of a small tract of meadow, a pretty lake swarming with trout, a little wood, and very much rocks, the whole forming a most august scenery—the naked mountains envelope his vale and lake like an immense theatre, the meadows are divided by a small stream, and are bounded on the one side by the lake, and on the other by his woods, which skirt the foot of the rocks, and through which the river runs, and beyond them tumbles from the heights in a series of cataracts. He keeps his whole territory in his own hands, but distributes his hinds among the *Hafodtys*, or summer dairy houses, for the convenience of attending his herds and flocks; he has fixed his heir on another part of his estates. His ambition once led him to attempt draining the lake in order to extend his

landed property, but, alas! he gained only a few acres of rushes and reeds; so wisely bounded his desires and saved a beautiful piece of water. . . . Stools and roots of fir of vast size are frequently found near the lake. Mr Llwyd observed one, with the marks of fire on it, which he used to repair the *Tyddyn y Traian*, or jointure house of his family; an ancient customary appendage to most of the Welsh houses of any note. Among the mountains which guard the *Cwm* is one named *Carreg y Saeth*, on whose verge is a great *Maen Hir* and *Carnedd*. *Saeth* signifies an arrow; so probably the antient sportsmen here took their stand to watch the passing deer, which formerly abounded in these parts. Nor have they long been extinct; a person of the last generation informed my host that he had seen eighteen at once grazing in the meadows." (Vol. II., Edit: 1882, p.p. 267-271.) ZETA.

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF NEWTOWN A CENTURY AGO.—One of the speakers at a recent banquet at Newtown referred, and justly so in my opinion, to the importance, in a commercial sense, of Newtown, and also mentioned that it had some centuries ago had a Charter granted to it by one of the Mortimers, Earls of March. I have seen a copy of a Charter granted by the same family considerably earlier than the date (reported) as mentioned by the speaker at the banquet. Newtown could not have been a place of large population in the middle ages, as in 1801, the number of Inhabitants, according to the Census, was under 1,000. Between this date and 1831 the population increased to a point higher than it was in 1881. My object in penning this note is to endeavour to translate into words a description of Newtown as it was 100 years ago,—as presented to me by a map or maps of an estate which formerly formed a portion of the Newtown Hall property. One of these maps exhibits that part of the property which is situated in the town of Newtown and also in the parish of Llanllwchaearn, opposite to the town, on what is now known as Penygloddfa, and as far westward as Milford. The draughtsman who prepared the map has given a rough plan of the town and the main streets, so as to show the location of the property

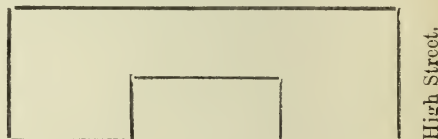
The map starts on the south-east, at a point where the present roads from Welshpool and Kerry meet, in other words, at the Queen's Head Inn. It shows a gate house in the middle between the two roads, and a gate on each road, and it also shows between the Pool road and the river another erection which probably was the old Pin-fold, and which, when the protecting wall was built between that road and the river, was removed to the other side, and erected on land now occupied by the playground of the National Schools. Looking from this point towards the town and the new or Long Bridge end of it, there does not appear to be any material difference in the outline of the principal streets, as they existed then and now.

The Green or Ladywell brook is shown on the map, and a small bridge over it. The approach to the town from the Queen's Head is marked on each side with dotted lines, from which I infer that the then road was open to the field on the one side, and the river bank on the other—(the right hand or river side was the natural slope of the land, fenced off by a rail. Before the stone

wall was erected the declivity here must have been considerable)—up to the shop formerly occupied by Mr Thomas Turner of the Elephant Hotel, adjacent to the Lion Inn. The triangular piece of land in front of the residences of the late Mr E. M. Stephens, Mrs R. Jones, and Dr. Monro was not then enclosed. Doubtless when the Enclosure Act of 1795 was passed and came into operation this land was allotted to the then owner; but there was a public road running from Mr Turner's shop, above referred to, in front of these residences, out to the White Lion, near the Gas Works.

On the right hand side, near Mrs Pilot's shop, by the road way entering on the gravel, there was a small tenement marked "G" on the map, described as under lease to "Sam Dimbello," and containing twelve perches of land. The difference between this area and the area at present attached to this taking would indicate to an inquisitive mind the encroachments which have taken place in this spot during the last hundred years.

The Lion Inn in those days filled the whole space between Mr Turner's shop referred to above and High-street, taking in the present County Court Office. On the plan it looked something like this



Horse Market.

Oak Inn.

At the back of the Lion was the entrance to the Angel Yard, the gateway to which was in a line with Mr. Turner's shop. Messrs Williams, Gittins, and Taylor offices, and the new vaults &c. erected by Mr Cornelius Morgan, were then the garden appurtenant to the Angel Inn.

In High Street, a portion of the Angel fabric projected beyond the line of the house and level with the present front of the County Court Office—the body of the House was in a recess. The area of the premises altogether was 26 perches.

The then tenant was Robert Brown, probably afterwards of the Rose Inn, and father of Mrs Langworthy, the present landlady of the Bear's Head Hotel. He is dead a many years ago, but I knew him well, and I believe for half a century, hot or cold, wet or dry, he every day used to have a bath on Severn Green.

The projecting part of the Angel which stood on the side adjacent to the new vegetable Market Hall is marked "C.C." on the map and is described as three small shops in the respective occupations of Thomas Cow, Opkin Titley and Daniel Sampson. The Angel is marked on the map H 1. There were also in this vicinity seven small dwelling houses with gardens, &c., which went through from High Street to the street in which Mr Issard's brewery now stands. These were in the occupation of Thomas Hall as tenant, and they stood either on the site where Morris's Eating House is or was, or on the site of the adjacent houses. The Lion Inn happened, indirectly, to be the cause of the incarceration of Sir John Powell Pryce in the King's Bench prison in London for contempt, where he died, and the

incidents connected with the case are only to be found in some musty old papers which I once had the privilege of seeing, in fact they were the Brief for the widow, depositions &c. of witnesses, and on the back of the folios of the Brief the cross-examinations were noted. The Lion, as will have been observed by the preceding instalment of this note, was to a person entering the town from the direction of the Queen's Head a very prominent object, as there were then no buildings (except the Tanhouse, to which I shall again refer), between the two points. One evening a stranger presented himself to the landlady of the Lion (she was a widow), and requested accommodation for the night and possibly for a few days, which she consented to grant him. Sir J. Powell Pryce was in these days always in hot water, and legal processes were difficult to serve upon him. The stranger was a process server. I cannot remember whether he succeeded or failed in his mission. The fact, however, of his having been staying at the Lion Inn annoyed Sir John, and he adopted a peculiar and unfortunate way for himself of avenging his grievance on the widow. He selected the annual renewal of Licences as the occasion on which to show his feeling. He was Senior Justice and usually occupied the chair, but on this occasion kept away till it was over. The widow had had a renewal from the presiding Justices, who were Mr Herbert, of Dolforgan, Mr Davies of Vronvelyn, and Mr Arthur Blayney of Gregynog, and I think Mr Pugh of Kerry, but in the evening Sir John, who was supported by a companion of his, Mr Pryce Jones of Glanhafren, near Welshpool, sent for the widow, told her there was a complaint against her, and said her licence could not be had; in short it was revoked.

She went over to Kerry and saw Mr Herbert, of Dolforgan, who told her not to take any notice, but to continue selling spirits, &c., as her licence had been duly granted. She adopted his advice; Sir John, hearing of this, sent a person to purchase spirits, and then summoned her for selling excisable articles without a licence. She appeared before himself! and he fined her £2. She declined to pay the fine or costs; he issued an execution and sold enough to realize what was required. The proceedings before referred to were commenced in consequence of these acts of Sir John. There were two hearings of the cause at Shrewsbury: in the end Sir John got the worst of it in every point, and rather than submit and pay the damages and costs, he went to the King's Bench Prison, out of which he never came alive, in truth, his representatives had considerable work in getting him out dead. It would be too long a tale to recite here how the money was raised, and what litigation ensued between the lenders and Lady, and Sir Edward Manley Pryce, in the attempt to recover the advance, which they had borrowed to defray the costs of Sir John's funeral, including the transportation of the defunct from London to Newtown. The foregoing is *in parenthesis*. What I chiefly desired to remark was that at the hearing of the cause a very minute comparison was instituted between the accommodation offered at the Lion and Bear's Head; how many sitting rooms and bedrooms each had; the class of persons who patronized each, &c.; the object of course being to show what a serious injury the action taken by Sir John was to such a Hostel as the Lion, and thus to increase the

damages. I am bound in fairness to say the Bear's Head was proved to have by far the better accommodation, and that it was recognized as the Head Inn in the town. It being the Excise Office, the place where magistrates' and other public meetings were held, &c. Looking from the Lion in the direction of the Queen's Head the Tanhouse and premises appear in the middle of a field, the hedge of which came up to the line (or rather farther into the street) of the front wall of the Eagles Vaults. There were on the left hand side the Horse Market between this point and the shop of Mr Turner, the Ironmonger, a few old houses on the site of which Mr Issard's Brewery now stands, or perhaps they were a little nearer the Eagles than this; the Plough and Harrow Inn, Mr Goodwin the cooper's house, and a house where Mr Turner's shop now stands. The back door of the latter premises opened out on to a field. There were gardens between the Eagles and Mr Turner's lying at the back of the houses mentioned, sloping down towards Ladywell brook. Ladywell itself was then in a field and a footpath led towards it from near the Lion. Above Mr Turner's to the top of the Green on the left hand side there was not a building, some of the land was an open green belonging to the town, which, under a subsequent Enclosure Act was cut up and allotted to the owners of property in the township. The principal entrance to Newtown Hall at this time was opposite to the Primitive Methodist Chapel, though there was an entrance from High Street, but the old Park palings then lay considerably farther back (opposite High Street, forming a segment of a circle) than the present wall. There were a few houses between Sam. Dimbello's and Severn place on the right hand side. These were described as *Pentre-yr-Effel*, and stood on land now belonging to the Gas Company. In *Land Revenue Office*, Spring Gardens, London (N. Wales, Vol. III., fo. 38) the following appears:—

32 Hen VIII 25 daie of April (1540) Vanior ucha in the New Towne A grant of certain lands, houses & chattels there being. A water a "walke mill" there and appurtenances.—*And in Pentre-y-Revell*. The Teyls houses there, by Sir Rich. Griff: priest,* to the use and behoof of Mr Richard ap Price, vicar of Kerry, and Sir Morris ap David Chaplain† of the New Towne et al's to pray for souls of certain persons deceased, "also to prais for my soule and my father and my mother their soules and all Christian soules."—Rent 8 marks.

Between these houses and the Church Lane, or, as it is now called, Old Church Street, there was not a house on the block lying between Cross Street and the river. From the Crown Inn to the Church Lane on the right there were gardens. There was a long singular-looking erection in Severn Street, the centre of which was opposite the New Inn—and described as "The Shambles"—here, I presume the butcher's market was held. There were no houses on the Brickfield at this period, except that mentioned by the Queen's Head and a house or two by St. Giles (if I correctly remember.) Crossing over now to the other side of the town proper, The Elephant Hotel and the row of shops up to the Black Boy Inn were not standing as they now do. Where the

* Rector of Newtown, witness to a Will in 1532 in my possession.

† Also witness to the same Will.

Elephant now stands, and on a portion of the ground on which Messrs Ashford and Lucas's shop is built, stood a house, building, and a skin yard, and the land on which the Elephant stables stand was the garden belonging to the Skinner, which reached to the glebe land between and the old Church. A block plan of the Church is delineated on the map, which also exhibits a building of some kind on the land belonging to the Rector adjacent. On the opposite side of the grave-yard, where there are several houses, now the property of the Rev John Lloyd of Plasforwyn, stood a barn in the occupation of Elizabeth Stanley, marked on Map Z. The land was 4 perches in extent. Between this barn and the river were also a house, building, and garden, the land being in extent 32 perches. These premises were in the occupation of one John Williams. Reverting to the Elephant—the old house stood between Messrs. Ashford and Lucas's shop, and that of Mr Howell the Hairdresser. The stabling (which abutted on the street), stood end to end with the house, and extended up to the Black Boy Inn. All the land behind these shops, up to the glebe land, was laid out in a garden attached to the Elephant. The area of the Elephant house, buildings, and garden was one acre and sixteen perches; the tenant was Lewis Williams. Attached to this holding were four pieces of land over the river in the parish of Llanllwchaearn, they were called the "Sideland Meadow," the "Plough Piece," "ditto," and a "Meadow,"—total acreage 10ac. 1r. 33p., marked on Map D. 2, 3, 4, 5. On No. 5 stands Dolguog, the residence and property of Wm. F. Thomas, Esq. No. 2, 3, and 4 are now in the occupation and belong to Pryce Jones, Esq., M.P. for Montgomery Boroughs. On No. 2 there is a brickyard formerly in the holding of Mr W. H. Lee. The area of the Skinner's premises was eighteen perches, the then tenant was one David Davies. Attached to this taking also was a field over the river, which I will indicate in a subsequent part of this paper. Looking across the street from the Elephant, on the site of the Public Rooms, the Infirmary, Police Station, Mr Edward Morgan's wool warehouse, Mr Blythe's warehouse, Mr Rd. Hughes's house, Mr Edward Jones's house, the Wesleyan Chapel and graveyard; stood the Homestead of a farm of 138ac. 3r. 38p., all of which, with the exception of this land, was over the river; William Davies was then tenant. The flannel warehouse, residence, &c., belonging to Mr Richard Lloyd, is on land belonging to another property. The garden attached to William Davies's holding appears to have reached from the corner of the Public Rooms, next to the Long Bridge, up to, if not a little beyond Mr Edward Jones's house. There seems by a fence marked on the map to have been either a second garden or an orchard beyond, and parallel with the first garden along the river side a row of large trees. The river appears by the map to have been then about the same distance as it is now from the wall by the Long Bridge (enclosing land in rear of the Public Rooms), and the fence by the corner of the stable in rear of Mr Blythe's warehouse; and the strand was open to the public, but between Mr Blythe's stable and the river edge there is a fence marked, as if shutting off access to "Severn Green." There is no fence marked as between the "Cunnings"

and the river, so that the then occupant's stock had free access from that field to the river. The "Cunnings" at this period formed part of the "Desmesne" of Newtown Hall, though it was, in consequence of the settled estates being in the hands of a Receiver appointed by the Court of Chancery, let out. On the site of the premises occupied by Mr Blayney the shoemaker and Mr Phillip Pritchard, glazier, stood a barn, abutting on the street. This belonged to the barn referred to above, and the area of the land on which it stood is marked as 16 perches. There were some houses on the site of the shops occupied by Mr Morgan, draper, Messrs Brown and Davies, spirit merchants, and Mr Bennett, draper, and the "Bell Inn." There was a "Bell Inn" in the town, the property of the Pryces two and a half centuries ago but whether it was identical with the "Blue Bell" I am not able to say; my impression leads me to think differently, inasmuch as the site on which the shops I have just referred to stand was purchased by the late Rev. George Arthur Evors some sixty years ago from a Mr Blayney, a doctor who resided in London, but who was the representative of a family of that name belonging to Newtown. Included in the same purchase was the "Chequers Inn" and other property adjacent, as well as property in Severn-street occupied now by Mrs Dolby, butcher, and others. With the exception of the premises named there were no houses delineated on the block lying between the Back Lane and the river Severn, at the time the map was made, and probably none existed. I may remark here that the end of Broad Street, nearest to the Long Bridge, is several feet higher than the old surface of it was previous to the erection of the bridge—this was necessitated so that the gradient should not be too abrupt from the bridge into the town. The pavement in front of the Black Boy Inn indicates the line of the old surface. I may summarize the foregoing description by saying that the town of Newtown a hundred years ago appears to have consisted of High Street and Broad Street, the Horse Market up to the Lion Inn, that block bounded on the one side by Parker's Lane and on the other by Severn Street, extending from Mr Palmer's shop to the Temperance House, that block lying between Broad Street and the Crown Inn, extending from Severn Street to Old Church Street, several houses in this street near the church, a few in the Back Lane, on the left hand or Bear's Head side, and the straggling houses mentioned above in the Horse Market and Pentre yr Efel. There is a considerable difference between the extent and population of Newtown a century ago and now, for as recently as 1791, on a private census, or rather a counting of houses, the record of which is preserved in some of the parish books at the Rectory, which my friend the Rev. John Williams pointed out to me a few years ago, the number of the houses in the town was only 137, and in that part of the parish outside the town only 31. The population, at 5 souls to each domicile, would be a little over 800. At the first Government census taken (in 1801) the population had risen to 990; ratable value £2,140—poor's rate 5s in the £. In 1806 the then Rector of Newtown took a census. At this period there were in town and parish 361 houses and 1,632 inhabitants, or an increase of 193 houses and 960 inhabitants in 15 years. The late Mr Parry printed as a supplement to the *Express* a verbatim copy of this

census, giving the *names* of all the inhabitants and the number of each family, from the original document, then and now in my possession. Greatly as Newtown is changed and enlarged since a hundred years ago, a still greater change has taken place over the river, on the Penygloddfa side, access to which at this period was obtained by means of a wooden bridge, the end of which on the town side stood just midway between the Elephant Hotel and the Public Rooms, but the bridge slanted slightly to the right or down the river, so that the Penygloddfa end was nearer the Elephant (looking across the stream) than the town end. Just to the right of the Penygloddfa end stood, and I may say, yet stands, the Barley Mow Inn. On the right-hand side, beyond the Barley Mow, close to the boundary wall of Severn Side, was a row of timber houses; they were known as the "Poor House." It is only a few years since they were pulled down, having been unoccupied for many years, though I remember people living in some of them. Opposite the end of the bridge, just were the Bridge End Inn now stands, there was a house and a gate across the road. Close behind the house mentioned, but on the slope of land, and therefore higher up, was another house, with a small garden attached. This garden appears to have been exactly where Dr. Hall's house, stable, and yard now stand. The Surveyor put on his plan a (?), which I presume was intended to indicate that he was not certain whether it belonged to the estate or otherwise. If the scale on which the map was laid out be accurate the distance from the end of the old bridge to the fence which bounded this last house and garden, on the side nearest to the Calvinistic Methodist Chapel, was about 80 feet. At the end of this garden fence, on the Dolerw side, began another fence. It followed the brow of the cliff which overhangs the river, and sweeping round came into the present Milford Road (which I need not say was not then made), exactly opposite to the road which leads to the Vron. Beneath this hedge, between it and the river, was the old road which came out into the Milford Road at the point where the hedge came to. The hedge bounding Dolerw ground which began at the river (close to which was a gate, so that access was obtainable to Dolerw ground at that point) formed the other fence to the old road up into Milford Road. At the junction with the Milford Road the old road turned off to the left, and followed the same course as the present road does in the direction of Aberhafesp. There was at the point where the old road turned off a considerable piece of waste land, of a triangular shape, part of which was cut off by the Milford Road, and is a portion of the present road to the Vron. The road from this point to the Crescent was, I believe, subsequently made by Arthur Blayney of Gregynog. There is not much difference in the fences of Dolerw grounds now and then, except that there were three small fields at the end nearest the town, the fences of which were subsequently taken up, and form now the large meadow nearest the town. One singular thing I noticed on the map—at the very end of the Dolerw land nearest Milford, on what in these days is a wood, was a garden, one rood and thirty-six perches in extent, and then in the occupation of one Thomas Jennings. Returning to the Barley Mow, the road leading to the parish church, to Bettws, and also in the direction of the

lower Bryn, followed the same line as at present from the Barley Mow to the point where it intersects the Canal Road by a house now in the occupation of Mr William Roberts, wheelwright, &c. There was a house here, and at this point occurred the crossing of the four roads, which gave the name to the toll gate and bar which subsequently stood here, and were afterwards removed near to Homestay, namely, the "Cross Lanes Gate." The road which led to the Church followed the same course as the present Canal road. That going in the direction of Bettws followed the line of fence of the National School and the field in the occupation of the Local Board till it came out opposite Mr John Danily's residence. The last houses on the right hand side of the road, built by Mr Rd. Lloyd, a wheelwright, stand on the old road. One of the houses belonging to the representatives of the late Mr Richard Francis, that nearest to the Local Board field, also is built on the track of the old road. The other road, leading from the point where they crossed each other, went in the direction of the Lower Bryn. This road followed the line of Commercial-road up to the School-lane, and about the bottom part of the land next the lane belonging to the playground of the School it swerved slightly to the left, and so through the gardens behind houses belonging to Mr John Green into a field called now the School-lane piece, but at the time the map was made "Y Big" (= the point) This name very accurately described the form of the field, which resembles a trowel with its point in the direction of the Lower Bryn. Traces of the old road running through this field are still visible. This field was in the occupation of my father and myself for five and thirty years, and when a lad I spent many a day in levelling the slope which bounded the old road on the north-east side through this field. The old road between the top of this field and the Lower Bryn is still much as it may have been a couple of centuries ago, a deep ravine; it was over this, tradition says, that Sir John Powell Pryce's horse leaped when hunting, the rider being blind. Having thus indicated the direction in which the several roads approached the town, an opinion as to the sort of roads which our forefathers used in those days may be formed from the remains of the one by the Lower Bryn. I may add that not a house except those mentioned above stood upon what now forms the Penygloddfa part of the town. Extending from the road now leading to the Vron up to Homestay was a number of fields, of which, as they are all named in the map, I will endeavour to describe the position relative to the existing condition of things between the two points mentioned above. Beginning at the field which is now known as "Penygraig," but which then was divided into two, and described as *Wern Ddrws*, N. 1 and N. 2 on the map, between this field and Homestay there were seven fields, exclusive of "Y Big," mentioned above, and also exclusive of those gardens on the right hand of Bryn-street, now the property of the Rev. Mr Gibbon, and also of the land to the left and rear of Mr Burton's houses, on which there are gardens now, and the land below Mr Burton's, on which Mr George Humphreys's houses stand. This field was 8a., 2r., 19p. in extent, and formed a portion of "Green's" farm referred to previously. It was then called "Bron-y-Baker." Looking at the line of fences it is probable

that in laying out Crescent-street a portion of this field was cut off and incorporated with the field on the west side of the upper part of that street, also the property of the Rev. Mr Gibbon. Passing on from the point where the old road intersected the present Milford-road in the direction of the Crescent, on the right hand side of the present road, was a small field belonging then to Arthur Blayney, Esq., on the town end of which is the handsome English Calvinistic Methodist Chapel. This little field was then called "Penygraig," which accurately describes it. The field next on the town side to Wern-y-drws, or as it is now called "Penygraig," belonged to the Proctors of Aberhafesp Hall, and was called "Penygloddfa." It was on this field that the first house was erected when the building of this part of Newtown began. This house was built by the late Mr Nathan Evans, senr., it stands immediately behind Syars's Factory, and was built on the bluff overlooking the river and facing the town, and was prettily situated, commanding a view of Broad Street, the old Church, Vastrey, &c., but the late Mr Syars reared that towering factory and obliterated the prospect from this house. It is now used as an out-building to one of the houses adjacent to Syars's Factory in Commercial Road. An inspection of it would show by the window sills, which are *in situ*, and other parts of the building, what a pretty little residence the building of Syars's Factory spoiled. As this field (Penygloddfa) belonged to another estate the acreage of it is not given, but tested roughly by the scale it appears to have been somewhat over four acres. Crescent-street is a little to the west of the centre of Penygloddfa field. Adjacent to this, on the side nearer Homestay was a field which was called the "Cross Lane Piece;" the area of it was 2a. 0r. 33p., and was then in the tenure of David Davies, the skinner, the occupant of the premises on which the Elephant Hotel now stands. This field extended from the top of the gardens above the British (now Board) School down to the door of Mr William Roberts's house, the fence on the eastern side of it being the boundary of the "Cross Lane," leading to the Bryn, until it intersected the lower fence of the field, "Y Big," referred to previously, where the fence bounding "Bron-y-Baker" began. Bryn-street and the houses on the north-east side of it stand on "Penygloddfa" field, but the gardens in the rear of these houses were a portion of the "Cross Lane Piece." Proceeding still nearer Homestay there were three other fields marked on the map:—

	Area.
N. 3—called Cross Lane Piece	2 0 30
N. 4— " Ditto Ditto.....	2 2 11
P. — " Erw Wen.....	3 0 7

N. 3 and N. 4 were in the tenure of Thomas Ashford, who was grandfather of Mr John Hamer Ashford. Mr Thomas Ashford occupied the Bear Hotel at this period; he was one of the witnesses examined before the Commission, which was issued from the Court of Chancery, to take evidence in a suit instituted by Lord Tracy against the heirs at law of Arthur Blayney of Gregynog. This was to perpetuate the testimony of the witnesses to Arthur Blayney's will, who had left his real and personal property to Lord Tracy. Homestay and Mr Danily's residence are both built on parts of "Erw Wen," which at the time the map was made, was in the

occupation of a person of the name of Thomas Owen. This completes a rough view of the town, and it shows what portion of it has been added to the old parts during the last century. I may here remark I have omitted to refer to one building, or more accurately speaking, there is a building standing upon the site of others, which were existing not only a century ago; but it is impossible to say how many centuries earlier—I mean Oversevern Factory. I have seen documents referring to this mill nearly four centuries old, and I am of the opinion much earlier references may yet be seen connected with it in documents which ought to be lying in the Record Office in London unless they have been destroyed by damp. I could add many remarks as to the old names, areas, &c., of the fields, which surround the town on both sides the river; but they would, in connection with this paper, be rather out of place.

PEARMAN.

QUERIES.

DOLEBANNY.—Is there any field or fields in Killewidd, near Welshpool, known by this name, or any name resembling it? If not, is there any fields or place, little farm or tenement, in the same vicinity, known as Dol-y-Pandy? A reply would oblige

QUERIST.

REPLIES.

A MONTGOMERYSHIRE SUPERSTITION. (March 24, April 14, 1886).—In *Notes and Queries*, 6th S. ix., 66 (Jan. 26th, 1884) the following question was asked:—"Some time ago, whilst staying in some apartments in London, I placed for a moment on the table my boots, which the servant had just brought up. She immediately rushed at them, and said, 'Oh, sir, we shall have ill-luck in the house.' Never having heard of this superstition before, I inquired her birthplace, when she said she was a native of the metropolis. I should like to know if this is a common belief." To this the following replies appeared (6th S. ix., 137), and from them it will be seen that the superstition is not confined to Montgomeryshire or to the border counties:—(1) "I am glad to learn that there exists a cockney maid-servant who is sufficiently imaginative—sufficiently *en rapport* with the past—to believe that the placing of boots on a table is unlucky. The table, on this side the Atlantic at least, is not the right place for boots, and so the belief has a social merit of its own; and it is a common belief in Shropshire and Staffordshire. I have more than once been prevented, on this very ground, from examining a pair of new and untried boots, by the respectful exhortations of a too observant female." (2) "Fifteen years ago, while also staying 'in some apartments in London,' I placed my shoes on the table, when the girl was shocked, and made a remark similar to that recorded by the querist. I had to pacify her. I remember she told me she came from West Kent, the Crays or thereabouts." (3) "This superstition is common in the midland counties, but is applied to *new* boots only, which are said to bring bad luck if placed on a table."

VERAX.

Oswestry.

CURRENT NOTES.

The chancel of the parish church of Baschurch was reopened after restoration on Tuesday. Archdeacon Lloyd was the preacher.

A new Artists' Club has been opened at Talybont in the Vale of Conway by Alderman Samuelson of Liverpool.

A Roman hypocaust has been discovered in Black Friars, Chester. Among the pillars of the hypocaust a few Roman bones and a Roman coin of the reign of Constantine have been found.

The death is announced of Mr Charles Bishop, of Llangarreg, Llandovery, Clerk of the Peace for Carmarthenshire, who for more than half a century had occupied a prominent place in the public life of the county.

Rtiwlas Church, as a chapel-of-ease, in the parish of Llansilin, was opened for Divine service on Whit-Tuesday, when a large number of the subscribers to the new building and of the parishioners assembled to join in the opening services.

Last week a cockfight took place on the Penrhiwciebr Mountains, Rhondda Valley. The police having received information, at once proceeded to the spot and dispersed the crowd. Three leading cockfighters were arrested, and three birds taken possession of.

A marble tablet, with a suitable inscription, has been erected near the entrance to the vestry of the Welsh Congregational Chapel at Albion Park, Chester, in memory of the Welsh divine, bard, and journalist, the Rev W. Rees, D.D., (Gwilym Hiraethog), who died in that city in November, 1884.

Last week at Llandovery Mr. D. Davies and Mr. Pugh, members for Cardiganshire and East Carmarthenshire, laid memorial stones of a new chapel now in course of construction as a memorial of the Rev. W. Williams of Pantycelyn, whose remains were interred in the churchyard of Llanfair-ar-y-Bryn. A memorial is also being placed over the Welsh hymn-writer's grave.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to assent to the Rev Holland Sandford's wish to name two trees in Church Stretton avenue, one to be called "Queen Victoria's Tree," the other the "Prince Consort's Tree." The Royal consent was conveyed to the donor of the avenue by letter from Sir Henry Ponsonby. Two additional trees will be planted as soon as the season permits.

The Rev. HERBERT ARMITAGE JAMES, B.D., Head Master of Rossall School, has been appointed Dean of St. Asaph. The new DEAN studied at Oxford and was made a fellow of St. John's College. He was ordained priest in 1872, and in 1875 became head master of Rossall School in Lancashire.

Mr W. D. Taylor, writing to *The Field* from Blaendyffryn, Llandysil, South Wales, with reference to the endurance of the Arab horses on the march to Metameh, mentioned in the letter of Major Meysey-Thompson, says:—"Permit me to say that during this march General Stewart rode a Welsh cob, 14-2, and seven years old, which I reared and sold to him. He wrote, saying the little animal was almost as fresh at the end of the march as at the beginning, and it was only his indomitable pluck that enabled him to accomplish it. The cob is now in the possession of the Duke of Beaufort, and carries him as hack. The above will go very far to prove that our Cardigan cobs are quite as enduring as the Arabs. I have

two of the same blood in my stable at the present moment, and have never yet found the bottom of them, either hunting or hacking."

A correspondent of the *Western Mail* writes:—"The Glanaber Welsh and Border Counties Library was on Wednesday purchased for the use ultimately of the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire. The collection, brought together during the past fifty years by the labour and at the cost of Mr Salisbury, late member for Chester, is in point both of quantity and quality absolutely unique and famous among Welsh scholars throughout the world. For distinguished services in the course of the negotiation the gratitude of myself, and, may I add, of the country generally, is due to Mr J. Howell, of Cardiff, and Mr Hugh Rowland, of the great firm of Sparrow, Hardwick, and Co., of Manchester. Every patriotic Welshman and every Welsh scholar will rejoice that the library has been saved from dispersion under the auctioneer's hammer, and I venture to congratulate South Wales and Monmouthshire on the fact that the books will find a permanent home in the University College, Cardiff."

A CURIOUS ORDER.—In the parish books at Prestwich, under 1786, the following entry occurs:—"It is ordered that 13s. a year, and a new coat every other year, be given to George Grimshaw for his trouble and pains in wakening sleepers in church, whipping out dogs, keeping children quiet and orderly, and keeping ye pulpit and church walls clean."

THE BISHOP OF BEDFORD.—The honorary degree of D.C.L. was conferred at Oxford on Tuesday, June 15, upon the Right Rev. William Walsham How, M.A., Wadham College, Bishop Suffragan of Bedford. The Regius Professor of Divinity, in presenting him for the degree, dwelt upon his zealous and untiring labours in the East-end of London, and expressed his regret that the University should have so long delayed the bestowal of this usual honour upon one of the worthiest of her sons.

AN "ADVERTIZER" WRECKED.—A copy of our issue of the *Advertiser and Border Counties Herald*, bearing the date of March 3, 1886, has been forwarded to Oswestry, having been saved from the wreck of the steamship "Oregon," which sank off Fire Island on March 14. The paper bears traces of being under water, and parts of it are washed away. The address on the wrapper is now unintelligible, and appended to it is the following:—"P.O. New York. N. Y., March 20, 1886. This piece is a portion of the mail forwarded from Queenstown, Ireland, per steamer 'Oregon.' The paper was damaged before being taken from that vessel, which was sunk off Fire Island on March 14. Henry G. Pearson, Postmaster, N. Y. P. O. Print." The paper has been exhibited in the window of Mr John Whitridge, stationer.

JUNE 30, 1886.

NOTES.

EXTRAORDINARY ADVERTISEMENT.—The following extraordinary advertisement appeared in the *Public Advertiser*, in 1759:—"To be sold, a fine grey mare, full fifteen hands high, gone after the hounds many times, rising six years and no more, moves as well as most creatures on earth, as good a road mare as any in ten counties, and ten to that trots at a confounded pace, is from the County and her owner will sell her for nine guineas; if some folks had her she would fetch near three times the money. I have no acquaintance and

money I want, and a service in a shop to carry parcels, or to be in a gentleman's service. My father gave me this mare to get rid of me, and to try my fortune in London, *and am just come from Shropshire*, and I can be recommended, as I suppose nobody takes servants without, and can have a voucher for my mare.

"Enquire for me at the Talbot inn near the New Church in the Strand."

—(From the *Annual Register*; date 1759.) M.

OLD OSWESTRY WILLS, (June 23, 1886).—Nov 5th. 1521. David Edmond, Cler. of Oswestre. Bequeathed his soul to God, to the Blessed Virgin and to all the Saints of Heaven. Directs his body to be buried in the Church of St. Oswald at Oswestre. To the altar of the said Church xiid. To an honest priest to sing masses for his soul and for the souls of the faithful departed, for one year cs. sterling. To Robert Baker vs. for celebrating the trentall of St. Jerome "pro anima mea." To Dom' Owen ap David Curat of St. Oswald's ijs. To the "Chapellan" of sd. Church xiid. To the reparation of the sd Church xxs. stg. "I leave vs. annually to the sd. Church for the health of my soul and of all the faithful departed." To William Baker my servant xiijs. iiijd. E. Nicholas my servant xiijs. iiijd. The residue of my goods and chattels, lands, tenements, and houses I leave to Richard Hanmer, cler. and D'no Robert Baker Capelli, and Thomas ap Meredith ap—whom I constitute my exors. &c. Witnessed by Thomas ap David Sayer, D'no David ap Thomas, Capello, and William Baker, with many more. —Proved 22d November 1521. D.J.

QUERIES.

SHROPSHIRE NAMES (June 16, 1886).—Carrying on Q.'s inquiry, it would be well to know whether Coffin is a common name in any part of England except on the Welsh Border. Perhaps some of your readers can say. W.

REPLIES.

MACHYNLLETH.—RINGING A HAND BELL BEFORE A FUNERAL.—(June 16, 1886).—This custom still exists at Machynlleth when a public funeral takes place at the *parish church*. J. LLOYD.

FYRNWY OR VERNIEW (June 16, 1886).—Verniew is only the English method of spelling the name of the river, and Fyrnwy may be accepted as the correct Welsh spelling. BONWM.

CURRENT NOTES.

The late Mr Llewelyn Jewitt was about to publish a work on the Insignia of the Corporations of England, and photographs of the fine insignia at Bridgnorth had been forwarded to Mr Jewitt by Mr Hubert Smith, town clerk, to be used as illustrations of the work.

Intelligence has reached Cardiff that an eccentric old bachelor, once a resident in Wales, has died in Australia, having accumulated nearly £500,000 in sheep farming, which is left to relations and old servants. Most of the relatives reside in the Principality, and it is said that £8,000 is left to a Welsh nephew.

The first annual meeting of the Salop Archidiaconal Bellringing Association was held a few days ago at

Shrewsbury. The Archdeacon of Salop gave an address at a service held in St Mary's Church, and presided at a business meeting held subsequently. After the meeting, some "triples" were rung on St. Mary's bells and St. Alkmund's, some "doubles" at St. Julian's, and some "cinques" at St. Chad's.

The triennial dinner of Old Salopians was held on Wednesday, June 23, at Holborn Restaurant, London, under the presidency of the Archbishop of York. The toast of the "Houses of Parliament," was proposed by Sir H. Dryden, and responded to by Lord Cranbrook, and Mr Hibbert.—Mr Alfred Cook, Q.C., then proposed, "The Universities," which toast was responded to by Mr Gilkes, and Mr W. E. Heitland.—Mr H. C. Rothery next gave, "The Governing Body," and this was responded to by Archdeacon Lloyd.—"The health of Dr Kennedy," former head master of Shrewsbury School, was then proposed by the Chairman.—Dr Kennedy, in reply, expressed the great pleasure he had in being permitted to come once more among those whom he had known in connection with the Shrewsbury School. He also entered into reminiscences of the history of the school during the long period he had been acquainted with it, and referred to the losses sustained by the Salopians present in the removal of many of their former associates, some of whom, like the late Bishop Fraser, had attained the highest positions.—"Prosperity to Shrewsbury School," was then given by the Chairman, who spoke of the high position always held by that place of education, as evidenced by the large share of honours its pupils obtained at the Universities.—Mr Moss (head master of the school), responded. He thanked the company for the appreciation expressed of his services to the school, which, he said, continued to hold its former high position among the great educational institutions of the country.—"The Chairman," proposed by the Archdeacon of Northumberland, was the last toast.

MIDLAND UNION OF NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETIES.

The annual meeting of the Midland Union of Natural History Societies was held at the Music Hall, Shrewsbury, on Tuesday afternoon, June 22. The Rev J. D. la Touche, president of the Union, occupied the chair, and among those present were the Rev O. M. Feilden, Frankton, the Rev T. Auden, the Rev C. H. Drinkwater, the Rev N. Cooper, the Rev W. H. Fletcher of Shrewsbury, the Rev Mr Haughton of Kinnerley, and Colonel Barnes, Brookside.—The President, in delivering his annual address, gave the visitors from the adjacent counties a hearty welcome, and said they would find Shropshire in some respects, more especially as regarded geology, a classic ground, for in that county geological discoveries had been made which had settled disputed questions in various parts of the world. He believed that Field Clubs and Societies of that kind generally were calculated to do much good among students of the different branches of natural science, but he was afraid that these societies were on the decline of late years. He hoped, however, that such was not the case to any great extent, and he believed that the fact that the British Association had now recognised these clubs, and were willing to assist them, would tend to encourage them to further effort. Referring to the fact of their holding their meeting in Shrewsbury, the President mentioned that that town was the birthplace of Charles Darwin, and suggested that in recognition of his valuable services in the scientific world, some memorial should be erected to the memory of this great naturalist—(hear, hear),—whose noble work was having its effect upon

modern science. It was an old saying that a prophet was not so much appreciated in his own country as he was elsewhere. He did not mean to say that the citizens of Shrewsbury were unmindful of the great honour conferred upon them in Darwin being born in the town, and connected with it for many years; but he did think that Darwin was not appreciated as he ought to be, and if before the meeting separated the members would give an expression of opinion as to whether they approved of the suggestion he had ventured to throw out, he thought it might be the means of starting a subscription list for the purpose of erecting a statue or adopting some other mode of recognising the life of the great and illustrious Darwin. After alluding to what had been done during the past year in the different branches of the Society, the President concluded by referring to the great loss which science was likely to sustain by the wholesale destruction of rare plants, instancing the fact that it had been predicted that the now abundant primrose bade fair to become extinct in consequence of its recent increased popularity. (Applause.) The election of officers was then proceeded with, and resulted in the Rev J. D. la Touche, remaining President for another year; Mr T. H. Waller, B.A., of Birmingham, was re-appointed secretary, and the Rev O. M. Feilden and the Rev T. Auden, local secretaries; Mr E. de Hamer was elected treasurer, and the committee were re-appointed.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the president for his admirable address, on the proposal of the Rev Canon Butler, seconded by Mr H. Wilson.—A similar compliment was also paid the officers for their services during the past year on the motion of Mr R. W. Ralph, seconded by the Rev Mr Haughton.—Mr E. de Hamel, as treasurer, having replied, the company adjourned, and visited the various churches and other places of interest in the town accompanied by the President. In the evening a conversation took place in the Music Hall. We regret that the great demands upon our space prevents us from giving a fuller report of the proceedings.

On Wednesday, June 23, the botanical party, consisting of 17 ladies and gentlemen, left Shrewsbury in a brake and a carriage shortly before 10 o'clock. They drove past Pim-hill and Middle Cockshutt, and at Croesmere they went through the gardens at the vicarage, and the vicar, the Rev. H. J. Wilcox, showed the party the old British fortifications about Croesmere. They next explored Swetmere Moss, where they found several rare botanical specimens. Thence they proceeded to Colemere, and having walked along the side of the lake, they followed the canal, past Blackmere, to Ellesmere; where a meat tea was provided at the Red Lion Hotel by Mr. Sparrow. The excursion was conducted by the Rev. O. M. Feilden. On the return drive to Shrewsbury the party visited Whitmere. A vote of thanks was most unanimously passed to Mr. Brownlow-Tower for having kindly extended permission for the party to explore the woods. The weather, although dull at times, was fine throughout the whole day, and the excursion passed off most pleasantly. Specimens of the following plants were found:—Cranberry, frog orchis, andromeda, round-leaved sundew, buckthorn, birds' foot vetch, long-stalked geranium, hemlock stork's bill, marsh cinquefoil, lactrea spinulosa (fern).

The party joining the archaeological excursion, first drove to Wroxeter, passing Athatam Church and Attingham Hall en route, through very fine scenery on the banks of the Severn and the Tern. After inspecting the Roman excavations at Wroxeter, and the church with its fine historical monuments, the party proceeded to Buildwas to view the ruins of the Abbey, on which a paper was read

by the Rev. T. Auden. They next visited the adjacent mansion of Mrs. Moseley. The drive was continued to Wenlock Abbey, where the Rev. T. Auden read an interesting paper on the ruins. The Priory was then viewed by permission of Mr. Gaskell, and many objects of interest seen and admired. The company afterwards had a meat tea at the Gaskell Arms, after which Canon Evans proposed, and Mr. H. Wilson seconded, a vote of thanks to the Rev. T. Auden, for his excellent papers and guidance of the party, which was acknowledged by Mr. Auden. The return was by way of Harley, Cressage, and Berrington, to Shrewsbury, which was reached at eight o'clock.

JULY 7, 1886.

NOTES.

WENLOCK ABBEY, BOTTLE FOUND IN THE RUINS.—At a recent meeting of the Society of Antiquaries Mr G. Maw exhibited a glass bottle of date circa 1700, found in the ruins of Wenlock Abbey.

DOVEY.

MADELEY CHURCH, ORIGINAL FONT OF.—It is stated in "Walford's Antiquarian" of a recent date that "it is understood that the original font of Madeley Church, which was used by the Rev. John Fletcher, the theologian of Methodism, and which has for many years been the property of a private individual, has been presented to the President of the Wesleyan Conference, and is about to be added to the recently established Museum of Methodist Antiquities in London. Z.

CIVIL WAR LETTERS AT BROGYNTYN.—Amongst the MSS. preserved by Lord Harlech at Brogyntyn, are nine documents of the time of the Civil War. Most of these were addressed to Sir John Owen. The first three documents are royal commands:—

CHARLES R.

Trusty and welbelovyd wee greet you well. Whereas wee have com'anded Colonnell John Owen to march with all speed with his regiment and other forces towards our right trusty and right welbelovyd Cousin and Councillo'r William Marques of Hertford. And for that the sayd souldyers can not bee sufficiently supplied with Armes without the help of the adiacent countyes.—Our will and pleasure is that you deliver unto the sayd Colnell the publique armes of the sayd county and sufficient powder match and bullets for his sayd march to bee taken out of the magazine of the sayd county unlesse by any order or warrant from us you shall otherwise disposed thereof (before the sayd regiments shall bee upon their march) for the use of other souldyers marching towards us and the sayd Marques four our service. And we likewise require you to vse y'r vtmost indeavours for the further supplye of the sayd Regiment with armes out of the private store of other our well affected subiects of our sayd country, to whome we require you to give assurance that wee shall agayne restore the same or otherwise make satisfaction for them. And wee require your most diligent care for the speedy performance of this our service (expedition therein being of much importance) and wee expect an Accompt of what you doe in the premises with all speed. Given at

our Court at Oxford the nine and twentyeth day of October in the eighteenth year of our reign.

To our trusty and welbeloved our Commissioners of Array and Sheriff of our County of Merioneth.

Com'rs of array and Sheriff of Merionethshire (duplicate)
CHARLES, R.

Trusty and welbeloved wee greet you well—our will and Command is that you Forthwith require of William Hooke, Thomas Glyn, and John Bodurda Esq's and John Jones gent and all others of our County of Carnarvon who have any publique moneys collected for the defence of the Kingdome remayning in their hands That they immediately vpon the receipt thereof pay the same unto Colonel John Owen towards the charges of his Regiment and other forces of our sayd County who are by our especial command sodainly to march towards our welbeloved Cousin William Marquesse of Hertford. And for the premises this shall bee a sufficient warrant as well to you as to the sayd persons who shall pay the sayd Monyes. Given at our Court at Woodstock the 29th day of October in the eighteenth year of our Reign.

To our trusty and welbeloved our Commissioners of Array and Sheriff of our County of Carnarvon.

(Endorsed)

Received this letter of his Ma'ty ye 25 of April 1645 * John Owen

CHARLES R.

Trusty and welbeloved wee greet you well. Whereas Colonel John Owen by your Command is forthwith to bring vnto us a regiment of foote Souldyers rayned in our County of Carnarvon and the Countyes adiacent who can not in so speedy a time as is requisite for our service sufficiently arme themselves. Our will and pleasure is that you use all meanes out of the publique Magazine of our County of Anglesey or otherwise out of the store of private men to furnish the souldyers of the sayd regiment with armes wch wee shall take as a great service vnto us. And shall when God shall enable vs bee ready to remember to the advantage of every one whome wee shall find hearty and zealous in the promoting of this our service, And for so doing this this shall bee y'r warrant. Given at our Court at Woodstock the 29th day of October, 1642.

To our trusty and welbeloved our Commissioners of Array and high Sheriff of our County of Anglesey

Com'rs of array and sheriff of Anglesey (duplicate).
Ed.

QUERIES.

CORNDON.—This is the name of a mountain near Montgomery. Is it Welsh? If so, what is the English equivalent of *Corndon*? JUVENIS.

MONTGOMERY FORD.—There are several references to Montgomery Ford in documents connected with Llewelyn and Edward the First. Where is this ford? Is it on the Severn near Caerhowell, or is it east of the town of Montgomery on the Kemlet? CYMRO.

* This is evidently a mistake, as the King's letter is dated in 1642.

LLANMYNECH LIME ROCKS.—Antecedent to the construction of turnpike roads in the valley of the Severn I have heard it stated that the inhabitants of the district about Newtown and Kerry used to convey the lime they required in panniers on horses' backs from Llanymynech. Are there any documents in existence that would establish this statement? CERI.

OUTHER LANE AND OUTHER FORD.—A good many years ago I remember a lane, leading from Tynycelin (a farm house situated close by Pool Quay Station) in the direction of the Severn. It was a road very little used even thirty years ago, but as it led up to a ford, or a spot where once a ford had existed, I imagine in former ages it may have been a ford where persons proceeding from Guilsfield, and other places adjacent, in the direction of Shrewsbury, etc., used to make use of. The word was pronounced *outher*, the "ou" sounding like the "ou" in ouzel, could anyone give any account of this ancient roadway or the name. Is it Welsh? BREIDDEN.

REPLIES.

A WELSH INSCRIPTION. — A PRACTICAL JOKE (June 16, 1886).—I cannot give "T.W.H." any information respecting the stone he refers to in the vicinity of Dolwyddelan, but a somewhat similar tradition is connected with a large perpendicular stone situated on the roadside on the top of the mountain between Llangollen and Pontfadog. The stone, which was locally known as "Carreg y Big," stood not far from the mountain wall of a field belonging to a farm called Talfryn. As it is twenty-five years or more since I heard on the spot the story related to me with reference to this stone, I cannot say whether it is still existing. My informant told me that the stone had been originally longer than it was then, and when it was first set up it had an inscription on each end. On the top were the words—

"Trowch fi mi gewch newydd."

[Turn me and you shall have news.]

and consequently a number of young men whose curiosity had been aroused by the tempting invitation (for the stone was too large for one person to accomplish the task) proceeded to dig down for the promised "news" which no doubt they expected to be a clue to the finding of hidden treasure, or "arian daer" as the Welsh call it. After much labour the long pillar, half of which was buried in the ground, was pulled up, and the men were rewarded with the following piece of "news"—

"Mae potes poeth yn dda i fwydo crwst."

[Hot broth is good to soften crusts.]

In their annoyance at not finding the expected treasure, the men broke off the inscription which had caused them so much labour in vain, and to hide their disappointment they re-inserted the stone in the hole from which they had dug it up, and replaced the soil around it, so that ever afterwards there was no inscription visible on the stone.

BONWM.

CURRENT NOTES.

The *Gardeners' Chronicle* of last week published a full-paged ink photograph of Eaton Hall, the seat of the Duke of Westminster.

The Holiday Number of the *Art Journal* contains an article on "The Norfolk Broads," written by Mr G. Christopher Davies.

At the June meeting of the Geological Society a communication from Dr. C. Callaway was read "On some derived Fragments in the Longmynd and Newer Archæan Rocks of Shropshire."

The death is announced of Mr J. Osborne Riches, at Penylan House, Cardiff. He began his career as a reporter on the *Hereford Times* about thirty years ago, went to Cardiff, entered a shipping office as clerk, then entered the office of Mr David Davies, and rose until the management of the extensive Ocean Colliery business was placed in his hands. He then became proprietor of collieries, still retaining the management of the Ocean Collieries. He retired a short time since, having accumulated a large fortune.

JULY 14, 1886.

NOTES.

HORSE-SHOEING IN ANCESTRAL TIMES IN MERIONETHSHIRE.—The following very curious extract I take from a letter written by William Owain (afterwards Dr. W. O. Pughe) when on one of his tours in search of matter for the *Myfyrian Archaeology of Wales*. The letter was written to Owain Jones (Owain Myfyr). The year is omitted, but it would be either 1800 or 1794, as "Thursday, July 31," only fell on those years. By others letters we know he was in Wales in those years:—

About 80 years ago horse-shoes and nails were brought from Oswestry, Shrewsbury, etc., and sold on certain stones in the middle of Dolgellau, and everybody shod their own horses. And about that time it was only customary to shoe the two fore feet. It was customary to put thin pieces of iron under the feet of horses, fastened on the hoofs with clamps and screws—and sometimes a kind of strong canvas was put on the hoof instead of shoes. Lewis Jones, now 76 years of age, appears to know more anecdotes concerning the poets of the 15th century and downwards, and respecting Welsh customs, than any person I have seen in North Wales.

Plas Issa, Dolgellay

WM. OWAIN.

Thursday, July 31.

Can any correspondent confirm, either by traditions or by references in record or book, that this kind of horse-shoeing, or anything approaching it existed? I have not noticed in any of the Welsh poets anything quaint in this direction, but possibly something curious may be disinterred, perhaps in the wider field of border antiquities. The period given, presumably by Lewis Jones, "about 80 years ago," would be about the reigns of Queen Anne, or early in George I. When the informant states that it was customary "about that time," only to shoe the two fore feet, and that clamps and screws and canvas were used; surely such could only be customary with the desperately-poor peasant land-tiller, or the extreme *blêr* (untidy) ones amongst them, or as some provisional expedient to protect the hoof and foot. By ancient Welsh law, a smithy, or *gefail*, was an essential fixture in every commot, and a general smith, or blacksmith, was a fairly well instructed, and withal a valued craftsman in Wales.

T.W.H.

SHROPSHIRE FLOWER NAMES.—*Chambers's Journal* of May 15, 1886, contained an interesting article on "Some rustic names of flowers." The writer says that "the 'Falfalaries' (checkered snake's head) of old Shropshire people are properly spoken of by their children's children as 'Frütillaries';" and adds in a foot note that "near Weston, one of the seats of the Earl of Bradford, in Shropshire, there is a field locally called the 'Falfalarie Field,' which people annually visit for the sake of the fritillary which abounds there, as it does in Christ Church Meadows, Oxford." This flower, more correctly known as the "Red Valerian," is also in Shropshire known by the name of "Kiss-at-the-Wicket," which name, the writer avers, originated in the plant's habit of growing over old garden-gates. "Narcissus" is also stated to be known in Shropshire as "White Nancies." "In Shropshire the fertile stems of the Horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*), which shoot up like brown pencils out of the soil before the sterile ones appear, are called 'Toadpipes' by the children. In Shropshire, also, the chalk-white flowers of the rock alyssum have the pretty trivial name of the 'Summer Snow,' and the scarlet pimpernel, that trusted hydroscope of hind and shepherd—of which Lord Bacon wrote:—"There is a small flower in the stubble-fields which country people call 'Wincopipe,' which, if it openeth in the morning, you may be sure of a fine day"—is 'Wincopeep;' which, methinks, to use his lordship's idiom, is the more correct of the two, seeing the habit of the plant is to close its petals when a rain-cloud dulls the sky, and to open them wide in sunshine—alternations suggestive of the 'Wink-and-peep,' which time has probably contracted. In the same district, that fine sour relish of our childhood, 'Sorrel,' is simply 'Sow-Dock;' and the early purple Orchis (*O. mascula*) with its dark-green leaves plashed with brown, and spikes of richly-coloured flowers springing up in cowslip-covered meadows, is hailed as 'King's Fingers.' The cowslip has in Shropshire the common name of 'Paigle,' a name the derivation of which no one appears to understand Again, the great 'White Lily' (*Lilium canadum*) the 'Sceptre Lily' of our time, 'Our Lady's Lily' in the past, of which the old masters made such effective use in their pictures of the Virgin, is in Shropshire still known as the 'Ascension Lily,' an evident misnomer. It should be, remembering the time of its blooming, the 'Lily of the Annunciation.' In the neighbourhood of the Wrekin it has another name—it is the 'Healing Lily;' and the curative virtue of the whole plant is firmly believed in." Concluding, the writer says that "anyone who has observed the regular height to which the garden fumitory grows when planted against a wall, forming a background of its soft, finely cut, bright-green leaves, which overhang each other, and the seemingly equal distances at which its cluster of yellow or rose-coloured flowers depend, will at once perceive the fitness of its quaint Shropshire name of 'Ladies' Needlework Flower.' It has the richness, with some of the formality, of a glance of old chenille embroidery, such as in other years exercised the industry and the ingenuity of English ladies. This plant is said to be called fumitory (earth-smoke, *fume terre*) from the belief that it was produced without seed from vapours arising from the earth."

Oswestry.

VERAX.

THE BROGYNTYN MANUSCRIPTS (July 7, 1886).—The following letter from the Privy Council is transcribed from a copy; apparently an official circular, at Brogyntyn, Oswestry:—

After o'r very heartie comendacions vnto yo'r Lo'p: Whereas theris a greate Army now on foote Comanded by Marquis Spinola in Cleaunel and the p'ts thereabouts, that hath p'ceeded very farre in takinge and possessing themselves of diu's [divers] townes to the greate danger of the Protestant p'tie and the Religion that began soe happilie to florish in those p'ts, together w'th the Emynent danger of the stats of the vnited prouinces, w'ch although be a sufficient motiue in reason of State to moue his Ma'tie to cast a Vigilant & provident eie to the sautie of his owne dominions, yet being w'thall advertized of a greate flete lately discou'd [discovered] vpon the Cost [Coast] full of souldi'ers & Munition, w'ch are to take there descent either in the Lowe Countreys or in some place more p'iu'dical to this Realme, His Ma'tie in his high wisdom, hath comanded att this tyme that order be given by vs for a gen'all Muster & Survey to be made of such armed forces of this Realme as shalbe tho'ght meete to be prepared & hadd in a readines, upon all occasions, for the defence & sautie of the Kingdome. And therefore we doe herby pray & require yo'r Lo'p accordinge to the autoritie of yo'r Lieutenancy in the se'u'all Counties vnder yo'r Lientinn'cy pretly [presently] vpon the receipt of this L're [letter] Call delayes & excuses sett app'te [apart], yo'w cause a gen'all view to be taken of all the forces in those counties, both horse & foote, and therein to observe that p'fect [perfect] notice be taken & inrolld'made of all the Nombers trayned & vntrayned; But especially that the trayned may be made complete, both by supplyinge the Romes of such officers and other p'sons as are either dead inefficient or removed out of the Counties since the last Muster, w'th sufficient & apte men to be chosen in their plac' [places], aswell of those of the better qualitie as of such other freholders, farmo'rs, owners of laud, or householders, as may befit for the same, as alsoe by causinge the defects of the armo'r, weapons & furniture to be w'thall speede sufficiently repaired & amended. Provided that yo'w charge not the Countrey either w'th Coats or Conducte money, untill yo'w shall receive further direcons in that behalf; And for the Number of horse that they may be (if not increased as we wishe them) yetfilled uppe & made as complete as att any tyme hertofore they have bene, w'thall armes and furniture to them and their horsmen app'teyninge, from w'ch dutie & service no p'son is to excuse himself of what degree or qualitie soeu' [soever] excepting only those that are knowne to be his Ma'tie ordinari servants in Courte, and Meniall & houshold servants to Noble men; And above all speciall care ought to be hadd that all Coronalls, Captains, Lieu'enn'ts, and other their vnder officers doe dutifully p'forme the chardge comitted vnto them: And att this gen'all view y't shalbe likewise expedient.

That such of the Clergie as have ben hertofore appointed to find Armes; And others of them in like sorte, as are meete to be Chardged, may be ordered to cause the same to be shewed and p'pared in lyke readines: Herein we doe Require yo'r Lo'p: to give speedie and effectuall direc'cons as a matter much import'inge [importancing] his Ma'tie service and the sautie of the kingdome, and whereof his Ma'tie will expecte a good account, and w'thall to give order for the trayninge & exercisinge of the said forces, and that eu'y [every] soldier as well horse as foote may be p'pared and hadd in a readines vpon reasonable sum'ons att all tymes as occasion shall require; And whereas there hath bene speciall order hertofore

giuene, that there should be a certine quantitie of Powder kepte as a store in those Counties w'th Match Bullets & p'visions for Cariadges to be kept in a readines vpon all ocatations for service, We doe require yo'r Lo'p: that due care be hadd and order taken for the im'ediat supplyinge of that store, if it be wantinge or defective and the chardg thereof to be levied as heretofore hath bene accustomed, And further likewise we hould yt expedient, and accordingly require yo'w to take order that the Beacons w'thin these Counties be alsoe p'pared & putt in a readines as is requisite, And lastlie that all other direc'cons formly given vpon lyke ocatation & meete to be continued, be duly observed & putt in execution. Of these things we require yo'r Lo'p: to have a speciall regard & to certifie vs w'thall expedic'n of y'r p'ceeding' herin, And soe we bidd yo'r Lo'p: very heartely farewell. ffrom whithall this 13th of September 1614.

Yo'r Lo'ps: very loving ffrends

G. Cant:

T. Ellesmer: Can':

Ralph Winnowed Jul: Cæsar Ed'd. Tho: Lake. Coke

L. Eure: L: President

of Wales (1)

ex' francis Cottingham.

Ed.

QUERIES.

ST. CHRYSOSTOM'S CEMETERY.—A portion of the churchyard, marked by a massive cross, between the north transept and the vestry of the fine Perpendicular church at Tong, is the burial place of unbaptised children, and is called St. Chrysostom's Cemetery. Is this peculiar to Tong, or was Chrysostom the patron saint of christom children? I wonder if the Bishop of Bedford, a Shropshire man, had this place in his mind when he wrote a little poem, "The Children's Garden" (a plot in the churchyard reserved for children only), published anonymously in *Three All-Saints' Summers*. Shrewsbury. R.E.D.

MAY MYDDELTON.—I shall be greatly obliged for any information respecting May Myddelton of Gwaenynog who was living after the year 1762, and was probably about 20 in that year. C.W.

Hants.

REPLIES.

CORNDON (July 7, 1886).—Is not this word perhaps derived from Welsh "Corn," a horn, or peak, and the old Welsh "Don" a hill? BONWM.

OUTHER LANE AND OUTHER FORD (July 7, 1886).—May not "Outher" have relation to the Welsh "Wy," running water? Outher Lane might then be the "Watery Lane," a familiar phrase in English. T.W.

CURRENT NOTES.

Last week the outlying parts of the Madryn estate, including forty-seven lots, in the parishes of Llanarmon, Llangybi, Abererch, and Llannor, Pwllheli, were sold by auction. The amount realized was £22,000.

(1) It was the opinion of the late Mr W. W. E. Wynne, that this was the address, and not one of the signatures to the letter. The original was probably copied at Ludlow (which will account for Sir Ralph Winwood's name being incorrectly written), and circulars forwarded to the different Deputy Lieutenants throughout Wales, of whom Sir Wm. Maurice, from whose collection the copy from which the above is transcribed came, was one.—ED.

At a meeting last week of the Liverpool City Council it was agreed, on the motion of Mr Bower, seconded by Sir James Picton, "that the honorary freedom of the city be conferred upon Major-General Sir Andrew Clarke, G.C.M.G., C.B., Inspector-General of Fortifications, for the eminent services he has rendered to the city in connection with the Vyrnwy Waterworks."

BADGERS.—On Friday last, on the Halston estate, Whittington, Mr. George Woodward, keeper, caught an exceedingly fine badger, weighing 34 lbs, and sent it to Mr H. E. Preston, Naturalist, &c., Oswestry, for preservation.

JULY 21, 1886.

NOTES.

ROBBING A MAIL COACH.—On the night of the 5th of September, 1793, the Shrewsbury Mail Coach was robbed by two passengers to the amount of £1,400, five £10 notes and ten £5 notes.—*Annual Register*. M.

GRANTS IN THE REIGN OF QUEEN ELIZABETH OF THE CHURCH POSSESSIONS IN MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

Abermule	Grange	to Cheney
Arustley	Lordship	„ Leicester
Caveliog (1)	„	„
Cirtreff (2)	Rents in	„ Hayward
Ehudan	Farms in	„ do.
Gelynog	Grange	„ Cheney
Hyssington	Farms in	„ Westmoreland
Kedewen	Lordship	„ Cheney
Llanwyddyn	Manor and Farms in	„ Lee (George)
Madog-Trefnant	Farms in	„ Hayward (bis)
Montgomery	Farms in	„ Hayward (bis)
Stradelvedan	„	„
Strata Marcella	Possessions of	„
„ Florida	„	„
	(Burde, Cheney (bis) Horne, Scrope, Smyth, Tamworth, Warcope)	
Tereymyneth	Rents in	„ Chapman
Treheligg	„	„ Hayward
Welshpool	Farms in	„
„ Guild of S'Trinity	Possessions of	„ Lord Clinton
„ Farms in Welshpool Montg	late of the Chantry or Guild of St. Trinity within the church there.	PEARMAN.

A GORSEDD OR CONGRESS ON PRIMROSE HILL.—On the 22nd of September, 1792, that being the day on which the autumnal equinox occurred, some Welsh bards resident in London assembled in congress on Primrose Hill, according to ancient usage, which requires that it should be in the eye of public observation, in the open air, in a conspicuous place, and whilst the sun is above the horizon. The wonted ceremonies were observed. A circle of stones formed, in the middle of which was the *Muen Gorsedd* or altar, on which a naked sword being placed, all the bards assisted to sheathe it. This ceremony was attended with a proclamation, the substance of which was that the Bards of the Island of

Britain (for such is their ancient title) were the heralds and ministers of peace, and never bore a naked weapon in the presence of any one; nor was it lawful for any person to bear one, on any pretence, in their presence. On this occasion the bards appeared with the insignia of their various orders. The presiding bards were David Samwell, of the primitive, and claimant of the ovation order, William Owen, of the ovation and primitive orders, Edward Jones, of the ovation and claimant of the primitive order, and Edward Williams, of the primitive and druidic orders. The bardic traditions and several odes were recited. Two of the odes, one by David Samwell on the bardic discipline, the other by Edward Williams on the bardic mythology, were in English; and the first that were ever in this language recited at a congress of Ancient British Bards. R.

AN EXEMPLARY MARRIED COUPLE.

The following inscription is copied from a handsome white marble monument, in the chancel of Llanwrin church:—

Sacred to the Memory

Of WILLIAM PUGHE, late of Mathaven in this Parish And MARGARET his Wife, Daughter of JOHN LLOYD late of Maesv Pandy

In the County of Merioneth, Esq.
Who liv'd 42 Years together with the utmost Harmony
A Pattern of all those social Virtues wch. adorn the Marriage State;

He

A most Valuable Man in Public Life,
Ever employing his great Abillitys

In Reconciling Differences amongst his Neighbours.

She

An excellent Oeconomist,
And Prudent Manager in her Domestic Affairs,
Without the least Imputation of Avaritious Closeness:

He

A Generous, Sincere and hearty Friend
Which Render'd him most beloved and Respected in his Country;

And She

Remarkably Charitable to the Poor,
And Beneficent to all,

Each seeming to outvie the other

In acts of Humanity, Friendship and Good Nature,
Untill Death

After a most Religious and Pious Life together,

Put an end to this blessed Harmony,

By taking off the said MARGARET who departed this life on the 27th day of Octobr. 1714

Leaving her Mournfull Partner not long behind her,
He also Dying on the 26th day of October 1719.

And both lye interr'd under this Place.

This Happy Pair were the Parents of 9 Children, of whom 2 died very Young

The other Seven liv'd to be Men and Women,

Viz. JOHN ROWLAND WILLIAM and RICHARD and three daughters,

JANE ANN and MARGARET,

The said ANN, who dyed Augst. the 20th 1742, out of her Pious Regard to ye Memory of her dear Parents,

by her last Will and Testament order'd this

Monument to be Erected and lyes

herself Interred under this place.

For many years past two brass tablets, fixed in the west wall of the church, commemorated the death of the Rev. Jenkyn Lloyd Jones, M.A., a late rector of the parish,

who died January 8th, 1828, in the 60th year of his age; and of his wife, Anne, and Sarah his daughter. Some time ago, however, the tablets became unfastened, and the Rector has now placed them, fixed on a handsome enamelled slab, on the north wall of the chancel. S.

WELSH SCHOOLS 40 YEARS AGO.—The following is from the Report of the Education Commission published in 1847:—

1. The school was held in a miserable room over the stable; it was lighted by two small glazed windows, and was very low; in one corner was a broken bench, some sacks, and a worn-out basket; another corner was boarded off for storing tiles and mortar belonging to the chapel. The furniture consisted of one small square table for the master, two larger ones for the children, and a few benches, all in a wretched state of repair. There were several panes of glass broken in the windows; in one place paper served the place of glass, and in another a slate, to keep out wind and rain; the door was also in a very dilapidated condition. On the beams which crossed the room were a ladder and two larch poles.

2. The school was held in a room built in a corner of the churchyard; it was an open-roofed room; the floor was of the bare earth, and very uneven; the room was lighted by two small glazed windows, one-third of each of which was patched up with boards. The furniture consisted of a small square table for the master, one square table for the pupils, and seven or eight benches, some of which were in good repair, and others very bad. The biers belonging to the church were placed on the beams which ran across the room. At one end of the room was a heap of coal and some rubbish, and a worn-out basket, and on one side was a new door leaning against the wall, and intended for the stable belonging to the church. The door of the schoolroom was in a very bad condition, there being large holes in it, through which cold currents of air were continually flowing. V.

QUERIES.

MONTGOMERY BOROUGHS.—When the county of Montgomery was formed, in the time of Henry the Eighth, the town of Montgomery and one or more of the other towns (which now form the Contributory Boroughs of Montgomery) were privileged to elect a Burgess to represent them in Parliament. At a subsequent date (I have seen it stated), the towns other than Montgomery did not share this privilege. Could any contributor to *Bye-Gones* refer me to any public documents which would show for how long a period the town of Montgomery alone exercised the right of electing the Burgess, and how this singular state of things came about?

QUERIST.

REPLIES.

ST. CHRYSOSTOM'S CEMETERY (July 14, 1886). The Bishop of Bedford's poem "The Children's Garden," had no reference to St. Chrysostom's Cemetery at Tong, but was suggested by a plot of ground reserved for children in Whittington churchyard. W.

OUTHER LANE AND OUTHER FORD (July 7, 14, 1886).—I venture to offer another opinion as to the derivation of this place name. Is it not more probably derived from "Gwdwr," a wooden bridge or floodgate? "Wooth" is the word still used, even by the English-speaking inhabitants of this neighbourhood (Bettws, near Newtown), for the cratch drawn across a brook

where two farms or properties meet. Having no local knowledge, I cannot say whether such exists or has existed at the place so named. T.H.J.

CURRENT NOTES.

Ellis Roberts, aged 84, well-known as a guide to Snowdon, dropped down dead at Llanberis between ten and eleven o'clock on Thursday night.

On Thursday, at St. Peter's, Eaton Square, London, the Hon. Emily Ormsby Gore, second daughter of Lord and Lady Harlech, Brogyntyn, was married to Viscount Ebrington, M.P., of Castle Hill, Devon, eldest son of Earl Fortescue. Long before the arrival of the bride, the church was crowded by the friends and relatives of the two families.

On July 12, a very handsome new lodge, in the Tudor style, which has been erected by the Shropshire Horticultural Society, at the entrance to the public grounds known as the Quarry, was formally handed over to the town of Shrewsbury, the cost (about £500) having been defrayed out of the profits of last year's Show and musical fête. Altogether the Society have made gifts to the town of more than £2,000, the use of the grounds being allowed them free once each year.

A supplemental return gives particulars relating to the number of accounts open in post office savings banks, together with the amount, inclusive of interest, standing to the credit of all open accounts. Among them are the following:—Baschurch 87, £1,245 6s 9d; Dudleston Heath 8, £28 8s 10d; Ellesmere 456, £5,062 7s; Gobowen 11, £59 0s 3d; Knockin 16, £125 10s; Llanyamnech 117, £1,240 5s 8d; Llynclys 16, £22 10s 10d; Oswestry, 2,125, £24,310 7s; Prees 280, £1,710 2s 9d; Ruyton-xi-Towns 92, £424 16s 8d; St. Martins 31, £199 3s 8d; Tilston 51, £397 7s 10d; Wem 564, £6,782 7s 4d; Westfelton 84, £356 1s 4d; Whitchurch 1,174, £13,683 12s 2d; Whittington 39, £287 12s; Woore 60, £1,204 3s 1d.

A CURIOUS EPITAPH.—The following epitaph is on a flat gravestone near the south door of Chiswick Church, close to Hogarth's grave. It is very quaint. I am not aware if it has ever been published:—

Here lyes ye Clay
Which th' other day
Inclos'd Sam. Saulls Soull
But now is free and unconfin'd
She fled and left her Clogg behind
Intomb'd within this Hole.
May ye 21, 1728
In the 30th Year of his Age.

F. G. in *Notes and Queries*.

LUCKY AND UNLUCKY DAYS.—In the following verses Friday is a "lucky day." In Shropshire it is considered unlucky:—

Born of a Monday,	Born of a Friday,
Fair in face;	Godly given;
Born of a Tuesday,	Born of a Saturday,
Full of God's grace;	Work for your living;
Born of a Wednesday,	Born of a Sunday,
Merry and glad;	Never shall want,
Born of a Thursday,	So there's the week,
Sour and sad;	And the end on't.

One of the most interesting books of the autumn will be the "Life and Letters" of the late Mr. Darwin, by his son, Mr. Francis Darwin. It is to contain an autobiographical chapter, which will be eagerly read.

From Cincinnati we have received the *Cambrian* "published in the interest of the Welsh people and their descendants in the United States."

The personal memoir of the late Randolph Caldecott, by Mr Henry Blackburn, will be published with the consent and assistance of his representatives. The editor will be glad of the loan of any letters or memoranda of public interest bearing upon Mr Caldecott's early art career. The book will be published in October next, with numerous illustrations.

In *Book-Lore* (Elliot Stock) for July the List of English Topographical Works, begun the month before, is continued. It promises to be a most useful catalogue of topographical literature, and we hope Wales will be added. The List, which is alphabetical, begins with Bedfordshire, and a short account is given of each book.

Our Cookery Books, by Mr W. C. Hazlitt, is published in Mr. Elliot Stock's Book-Lover's Library. Mr. Hazlitt tells us a great deal, in a small compass, of the manners and customs of our ancestors in the matter of eating and drinking, and his history of the kitchen, like all others, shows how history repeats itself. Thus the "Serving-man's Comfort" (1598) "draws a somewhat gloomy picture of the times. The prices of all provisions had trebled since the good old days" when "people could buy an ox for 20s., a sheep for 3s., a calf for 2s., a goose for 6d., a capon for 4d., a hen for 2d., a pig for the same. The reason given by the farmers was that the landlords had raised their rent. Let them have the land on the old terms and the former prices would pay." But now, alas, even this could not be said! Many old receipts are given, and as flowers known to our grandfathers and since forgotten are coming into fashion again, why not try some of the ancient dishes? Not that all the old dishes or confections have gone out of fashion, for one of the receipts given, from E. Smith's "Competent Housewife" (1736) is "How to make Shrewsbury Cake." We are also instructed in the mystery of these famous cakes in John Middleton's "Five Hundred New Receipts" (1734); and another confection connected with Shrewsbury, the Simnel, is mentioned as early as 1563 in Newbery's "Dives Pragmaticus," in which book, as far as Mr. Hazlitt's knowledge goes, the word "bun" occurs for the first time. Mr. Hazlitt gives lists of the cooking utensils used centuries ago, and we are inclined to be surprised until we remember the familiar "petty-pans" seen in the museum at Naples among the spoils of Herculaneum and Pompeii. There are scarcely any stories in this book, though a book connected with the dinner table seems to suggest them; but here is one. It is said that Ude, once chief cook at Crockford's and before that in the employ of the Duke of York, exclaimed on hearing of the Duke's illness—"Ah, mon pauvre duc, how much you shall miss me where you are gone." And Mr. Hazlitt also tells us that Mrs. Glasse does *not* tell us to "first catch your hare."

In the *Red Dragon* for July the "Ring of Gyges" is concluded. Mr W. Rhys contributes a paper on that lively Welshwoman, Mrs Thrale; and "Brython" breaks a lance with Professor Rhys. The remark that "Celtic Britain" on almost every page contains some-

thing strange and new—"sometimes right and oftener wrong," is a rather startling beginning. Brython takes up the Professor's assertion that the Cymry had no letters before Cæsar's time. The *Red Dragon* is certainly a courageous beast. It has no fear of "authorities"; first Stephens, and then Rhys, is attacked. Who next? The interest of readers who care for Welsh history and Welsh literature is scarcely likely to flag. But we must protest against the gratuitous suggestion that Professor Rhys, when he denied that the Cymry had letters, was aiming at being "a fashionable writer." Why fight the literary battle in this style?

Amongst the interesting contents of the *Antiquary* (Elliot Stock) for July is a paper on the "Folk-Lore of a North Lincolnshire Village," in which we read that at Grimsby at Christmas children parade the streets and neighbouring villages bearing a wax-doll laid in cotton wool inside a box, and singing carols. The doll is undoubtedly the Italian bambino, the Child Jesus, and "they who drop pence into the oyster-shell held out by the children unconsciously act over again the part of the Wise Men." Many of the superstitions recorded in connection with the Lincolnshire Village are, of course, common in country places, such as watching on St. Mark's Eve in the church porch to see the ghosts of those who are to die during the coming year. Mr Elias Owen, in his *Old Stone Crosses of the Vale of Clwyd*, describes the custom in Wales, and Montgomery (as Mr Thiselton Dyer reminds us in his book on English Folk-Lore) tells—

How, when the midnight signal tolls
Along the churchyard green,
A mournful train of sentenced souls
In winding sheets are seen.

We hope the *Antiquary* will publish many more of these papers, for the purpose of comparing and perhaps elucidating the beliefs and sayings of various parts of the kingdom. Is the superstition of the Lincolnshire village, that eggs must not be brought into the house after sunset, a common one?

THE ASKEW ROBERTS MEMORIAL.

The following remarkable correspondence has passed between Mr W. H. Spaul, Honorary Secretary of the Askew Roberts Memorial, and the Postal Authorities. A proposal was made to erect, in front of the Post Office at Oswestry, a clock with two faces, which could be seen up and down Church-street, and to provide the necessary appliances for checking it with Greenwich time daily by electric telegraph. The boon to the public would be great, the post-office authorities would be supplied free of expense with a clock which they ought to provide at their own cost, and—they demand a yearly rent of £12 for the gift which they would receive! The twelve pounds, it should be understood, is not required to cover any outlay on the part of the Post Office: it is simply rent, which is to be paid for the privilege of benefiting the public in general and the customers of the post office in particular! The matter, of course, will not be allowed to rest here, but the extraordinary conduct of a great Public Department is worth recording to show how far the stupidity of routine can be carried, even when it is in direct opposition to the interests of the public.

Oswestry, 2nd June, 1886.

Sir,—A memorial to a late townsman in the form of a public clock to be regulated every morning by electricity is proposed to be erected in this town on the front of the Post Office.

The local Post Master is willing to take charge of the Clock, and connect the wire to set it right every morning with the telegraph instrument, when the time is received from Greenwich, if there is no objection to his doing so on the part of the Post Office authorities.

I now, therefore, on behalf of the subscribers, beg to ask the consent of the proper authority for carrying out this arrangement, as it will be a great public boon to persons posting letters, and to the inhabitants generally, to have one clock in the town that may always be depended upon.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. H. SPAULL.

To the Secretary, General Post Office.

Oswestry, 12th June, 1886.

"Askew Roberts Memorial Clock."

Dear Sir,—Referring to our conversation I think I cannot do better than enclose a photo of the proposed clock, and at the same time state that the subscribers are prepared to pay all the initiatory expenses of erecting the clock and electric apparatus complete, and as far as I understand it, all that is then required is, that the wire connected with the clock should each morning, when the time is received, be placed in communication with the instrument. Messrs Joyce and Co. of Whitechurch, Salop, will be the makers.

There is a clock similarly regulated in the Stock Exchange, London, but they have a wire direct from Greenwich and receive the time every hour of the day.

Please return the photo, as the makers require it again.

Yours truly,

W. H. SPAULL.

Mr J. Williams, Post Master, Oswestry.

General Post Office, London, 14th July, 1886.

Sir,—With reference to your letters of the 2nd and 12th ultimo, I beg leave to inform you that the Department is not in a position to provide the daily time current free of charge, or to undertake the duty of correcting the clock proposed to be fixed outside Oswestry Post-office. The service can, however, be provided at the ordinary tariff rates of the Department, viz., for the transmission of the 10 a.m. time current daily, Sundays and general holidays excepted, £12 per annum, payable in advance.

The apparatus necessary for the transmission of the time signal from London will be provided by this Department, but the receiving apparatus will have to be provided by you, and it is necessary that you should communicate with the Engineer-in-Chief of this Department before obtaining such apparatus as you may propose to use. It will also be necessary that you provide for the correcting of the clock from time to time on receipt of the time signal.

If you agree to these terms, and are willing to lease the wire for five years, I request that you will be so good as to sign and return the enclosed letter of acceptance.

On the line being handed over for use, the first year's rental will have to be paid, after which an agreement in the terms of the specimen copy enclosed, will be presented for execution.

I shall be glad to learn your decision in the matter.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

S. C. LAMB.

W. H. Spaul, Esq.

THE MIRACULOUS STORY OF ST. WINEFRIDE.

Preaching at St. Winefride's, Holywell, at the Commemoration of the Martyrdom of St. Winefride (who, it will be remembered, is said to have been restored to life after her head was struck off by Prince Caradoc), the Rev Father King said—"How fares the story of St. Winefride in this blaze of light that is being thrown upon the past? I have no hesitation in saying that the discoveries of modern times have confirmed and strengthened in a very remarkable degree the main incidents of the story of her life. There are three early independent biographies of the saint, from which all modern writers have drawn their materials. First in order of importance, but not of time, there is the work of Robert of Shrewsbury, compiled, as

he tells us, from ancient manuscripts and traditions. This was written about the year 1140, two years after the translation of the relics of the Saint from Gwytherin to the monastery of Shrewsbury, and probably some 400 years after the death of the Saint. Written at an earlier date, but far less widely known, there is also an anonymous life, which, so far as can be judged from internal evidence, was unknown to Robert of Shrewsbury when composing his more important work. There is a copy of this work amongst manuscripts of the Cottonian Library. Lastly, there is a Life known as the Ramsey manuscript, the anonymous author of which had access to memoirs which had escaped the vigilance of Robert of Shrewsbury. It has been reserved to comparatively modern times to establish how completely these three independent sources of information, whilst differing on many details, agree upon the main incidents of her life and martyrdom. It has been reserved to modern research to verify many of the incidental facts narrated by these writers, in points before denied, and to establish in a very remarkable degree their character as trustworthy historians. Take the one instance of the connection of St. Beuno with our Saint. So intimately are these two connected, that those who would deny the story of St. Winefride denied the very existence of St. Beuno, and now the sites of fifteen ancient churches, all known to us, all dedicated to him, his name in ancient calendars now brought to light in the Iolo manuscripts, attest his hold upon the people's love and veneration; attest the truthfulness of her old biographers. Nay, more than this, we can prove from contemporary events that he was living at the very time of Winefride; we can trace him step by step from Beuno's Field, Tremerchion, to Anglesey; from Anglesey to his monastery of Clynog Vawr, and from Clynog to St. Winefride at Holywell, where the site of Beuno's gardens still bears a people's testimony to his residence in this locality. Another instance I would adduce in support of the truthfulness of that old monk of Shrewsbury, who little knowing the keen and searching scrutiny with which his work would be examined, and writing some four centuries after the events he was recording, compiled from old manuscripts and traditions his careful biography of his much loved saint St. Winefride. He mentions that St. Winefride, after her life had been miraculously restored, joined the community of Virgins at Gwytherin, visiting on the way St. Deifer and St. Sadwrn. At Bodfari where the establishment of the Roman station would afford our Saint an opportunity of crossing the then broad waters of the Clwyd, without crossing the marsh of Rhuddlan, and at Holyllan, near which the Saint would also pass, we find to this day the memory of those two saints fresh in the minds of the people; to one of them a church is dedicated, and both of them have in their locality spots of ground consecrated by their names. And, lastly, there is one point in which all the early biographies agree—that she lived at Gwytherin and that at Gwytherin she died; and note the significance of this fact, and its bearing upon the story with which we are concerned and St. Winefride's second life. She, the Virgin Martyr, who never has been venerated as other than Virgin Martyr, whom all traditions and biography point out as suffering death at the hands of Caradoc here at Holywell, this same saint is asserted to have died at Gwytherin. What confirmation have we for this besides the statements of her biographers, of Robert of Shrewsbury and the yet earlier Cottonian manuscripts, mentioned and quoted by Bishop Fleetwood? Is this statement in any way confirmed by researches of modern times? It is. From time immemorial, handed on from father to son, there has been the tradition that the bones of the Saint had lain there previously to her translation to Shrewsbury in 1138; until

late years portions of an ancient chest, said to have been that in which her body lay, rough-shaped with an axe of great antiquity, was shown, evidence at least of the antiquity of the tradition — whilst, more important still, a chapel from earliest times has there been dedicated to her — a significant and important fact, indeed, when we remember that previous to the eighth or ninth century churches were dedicated not as now, merely to some well-known saint whose relics might be preserved, and it may be to some alien saint, but to those alone whose lives had in part at least been spent in the actual spot in which the church or chapel was erected. I do not say that the story of St. Winefride is proved; I do not deny that many links are wanting in the chain of evidence; but I do maintain and hold that the story is confirmed rather than weakened by the research of modern times, and still more strongly do I maintain that, holding as we do the possibility of miracles, the story can in no sense be said to stand as 'self-confuted.' In the course of his subsequent remarks Father King asked, "How is it that our Protestant fellow countrymen, believers, as Christians, in a supernatural God, how is it that they are so impatient, so intolerant, so petulant, when in the presence of any seeming manifestation of the supernatural?"

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

MR. PHILLIMORE ON THE WEESH TRIADS.

(May 26, 1886).

(Continued.)

The use of the term Historical Triads to designate only one or some of the versions of this class of Triads is, as will be seen from its results, not to be commended, but for the purposes of this lecture I shall confine the term to the two oldest known versions. One of my reasons for doing this is, that the composition of both in their present form can be unquestionably traced back at least to the thirteenth century. As they are found in MSS. written a little before or after 1300, one of which bears marks of transcription from an original at least 50 years earlier, their antiquity and what is usually called their authenticity is beyond dispute, nor are we able to get behind them, so to speak, to any other documents of the same nature from which they can have been compiled. It should be said, however, that an older and considerably differing version of one small section of the "Red Book Series of Triads," viz., the "Trioedd y Meirch," or "Triads of the Steeds," is to be found in a MS. of the 12th and perhaps partly of the early 13th century, the "Black Book of Carmarthen"; and as will subsequently be seen there is a third version of the same "Triads of the Steeds," which can claim a considerable antiquity, but does not differ very materially from that found in the "Red Book." The two versions of the "Historical Triads" that I have chosen possess also the great advantage of having been printed, and that in recent and fairly accessible publications, whilst of the other versions none but the two latest, both of which bear on the face of them the marks of somewhat modern compilation, have ever been published. Of these other versions the oldest is believed to be of the 14th century, and to exist in a Hengwrt MS. which has never been properly examined; of the remainder none is known to occur in any MS. older than 1445. A very important and interesting work, which I am glad to say is being seriously taken up by Mr Gwengofryn Evans, who has recently announced a critical edition of the various versions, is the publication and scientific comparison of every existing independent

version of these Triads; but it will be clear, that in the meantime, until the available and accessible versions, several of which are preserved in the "Hengwrt Collection," have been published, or at least examined, it would be impossible for anyone who, like myself, has only examined a few of these versions, to enter into that critical comparison by which alone the value of any version as a historical document can be definitely ascertained. Plenty of materials exist for such a task, but they yet have to be made available. However, I have thought it best to give a short account of a cursory examination of the various versions which I have been enabled to inspect other than those two with which I propose directly to deal. It will be subsequently seen that the important result of this examination so far as regards the purposes of this lecture is that all these versions, while differing very much in order and arrangement both from each other and from their prototypes, with one exception agree in containing almost no subject matter which is not to be found either in the two old versions which I have selected, or in the two independent versions of the *Trioedd y Meirch* of which I have already spoken. I proceed in the first place to give some particulars about the two oldest known versions of the "Historical Triads." The first is the "Trioedd Arthur ae Wyr" (The Triads of Arthur and his Warriors) so called in the MS. where they are found, which is numbered 536 in the Hengwrt Collection at Peniarth, and is ascribed to the end of the 13th or beginning of the 14th century. It has been printed, with a translation that is not always to be depended upon, in the Appendix to Skene's "Four Ancient Books of Wales" (Vol. 2). The second old version is the one of which the only complete copy known is to be found in the celebrated "Red Book of Hergest" at Jesus College, Oxford, into which it would seem to have been transcribed in about the middle of the 14th century. This version has been printed somewhat inaccurately in the 2nd vol. of the "Myfyrion Archaeology," where it forms the second of the three versions of "Trioedd Ynys Prydain" (or "Historical Triads"), printed in that volume, but they have been more recently accurately reproduced by Professor Rhys, in the 3rd vol. of "Y Cymmrodor." An imperfect copy of them, which now proves beyond doubt to have been when perfect the original whence the "Red Book" copy was directly transcribed, forms part of a book of which only fragments now exist, written at the end of the 13th or beginning of the 14th century. The fragment containing the latter part of the Triads is now to be found stitched into Hengwrt MS., No. 202, and is printed in its entirety in "Y Cymmrodor," vol. 7. It begins in the middle of the 14th Triad of the "Red Book" series, all the preceding portion, comprising the first two groups of that series, and the greater part of a third, being lost. It should here be noted that though the scribe of the "Red Book" has made the six groups or chapters into which this series of Triads is divided to follow on in uninterrupted order, they did not do so in his original, where both groups, three and four, and groups five and six, are separated from each other by perfectly distinct pieces of prose and poetry. I should add that as far as I know, no translation of this version of the "Historical Triads" (which I propose to call "The Red Book Version") has ever appeared, and I suppose this is the reason why it has not been used nearly so extensively as it deserves to be by explorers of Welsh antiquity who are ignorant of the Welsh language. I now proceed to say a few words on the relation which these two versions, the "Triads of Arthur" and the "Red Book Triads," bear to one another. The "Red Book Triads" consist of six groups, each headed with a rubric, and together containing ninety-five Triads. Of

these six groups, the first and the last, containing respectively four and thirty-five Triads, do not concern us any further, as they are not Welsh Historical Triads at all. The "Red Book Historical Triads," thus reduce themselves to 4 groups, comprising 56 triads, numbered 5 to 60 inclusive. The "Triads of Arthur" are not divided into groups, and only contains 34 Triads, of which 30 are to be found in the other version. It will thus be seen that the "Red Book" series contains no less than 26 Triads not to be found in the Triads of Arthur. The order in which the 30 Triads common to both versions occur in one version, is so utterly different from that in which they occur in the other, that as compilations we must regard the two as quite distinct; on the other hand the Triads common to both, though differing often in verbiage, substantially differ but little in matter, so that the substance of both compilations is largely taken from a common source. On the whole the Triads of Arthur appear to me to be the other version of the two for they contain some of the Triads common to both versions in a simpler and less encumbered form than does the "Red Book Version." A brief account of the other versions of the Triads with which I am acquainted, and the relations that they bear to the two versions I have selected, seems demanded by the subject, and may perhaps not be found uninteresting. The oldest of the other versions is probably to be found in Hengwrt MS., 411, a MS. of the 14th century, if the Triads which that MS. certainly contains are historical Triads. It has never been properly examined or thoroughly catalogued, but I think it highly probable that it is the same MS. as that from which the version to which I now proceed was transcribed. This next version is one copied by the celebrated John Jones, of Gelli Lyfdy, one of the founders of the Great Hengwrt collection, who lived at the end of the 16th and beginning of the 17th century, from an old vellum MS. in his possession, which in the loose way which then prevailed, he estimates as being about 600 years old. The autograph MS. of John Jones probably still exists at Peniarth, but for a knowledge of its contents I am indebted to a copy made by Richard Morris for Moses Williams early in the last century, and now in the Earl of Macclesfield's collection, which copy was also used by the editors of the "Myfyrian Arch." for the purposes of collation. John Jones's footnote (see "Myv. Arch." Vol. 2, p. 80), says that these Triads were imperfect at the beginning, but though the MS. whence he copied may have been imperfect, it does not seem to me that the Triads can have lost more than their heading, for his copy as it stands is a complete copy, with a few trifling differences, of the "Triads of Arthur." I should rather have said of the Triads of Arthur as far as they go, for after their conclusion, and without any break, there follow in this copy "Trioedd y Meirch," which are not in the Triads of Arthur at all. This version of "Trioedd y Meirch" is noteworthy enough to demand a few words. It mainly agrees with the "Red Book" version, but with the following differences:—First, one of its Triads agrees not with the "Red Book" but the "Black Book" version. Secondly, it gives in full the very curious triad of the "Tri Marchlwyth," or three horse-loads, which does not occur in the "Black Book" at all, while in the "Red Book" it occurs, but not among the "Trioedd y Meirch," which there merely mention the names of the three horses that carried the loads in question, and refer the reader back to a previous triad in which the account of their performances had been contained. Thirdly, it appends at the end two curious triads of a legendary character relating to the Three Chief Oxen and Three Chief Cows of Ynys Prydain, not found in the other two versions. To recapitulate, this version of the Historical Triads transcribed by John Jones consists of the "Triads of Arthur," plus a portion of the

"Triads of the Steeds," which has sufficient peculiarities to entitle us to consider it as a distinct version of this particular section of the "Historical Triads." It is to be hoped that the original MS. from which the whole copy was taken will prove to be still in existence.

(To be continued.)

JULY 28, 1886.

NOTES.

AN ANCIENT BRITON, January, 1790.—Hugh Llewelyn died at Llangadwaladr in the 115th year of his age, and he was celebrated in the neighbouring Counties for his musical skill, particularly on the Welsh Harp, which he played until within a fortnight of his death. —*Annual Register*, 1790. M.

POTATOES AT CHESTER.—The following I culled from Jefferson's Entertaining Literary Curiosities, (London, 1808), p. 289:—

"Last Monday evening, upwards of three pounds of young potatoes were served up at a supper in Newgate St., Chester, which the company affirmed to be the best they had eaten for some years. They were procured from five potatoes which were left by accident on the cellar floor, and grew up to the wall, like a vine, unobserved; they issued from the joints of the stems in the place of leaves, the lowest of which was as large as an egg.

"However extraordinary the above may appear, we are assured of its truth. March, 1784."

Oswestry.

VERAX.

THE STATE OF THE NEWTOWN DISTRICT 40 YEARS AGO.—The following extract from the Report of the Education Commission, published in 1847, is interesting now:—

The following evidence relates to the parishes of *Newtown* and *Llanllwchaearn*, which contains 6,842 inhabitants:—

"It appears that, previously to the year 1845, no district in North Wales was more neglected, in respect of education, than the parishes of Newtown and Llanllwchaearn. The effects were partly seen in the turbulent and seditious state of the neighbourhood in the year 1839. The permanent evils which have sprung from this neglect it will require many years of careful education to eradicate. A memorial, presented by the inhabitants to the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education, at the close of the year 1845, contains the following plea for assistance in providing popular education:—

"In the spring of the year 1839 the peace of the town and neighbourhood was threatened by an intended insurrection on the part of the operative class, in connection, it is supposed, with other parts of the kingdom, with a view to effect a change in the institutions of the country; but such an insurrection, if intended, was prevented by the presence of an armed force; and a military force has ever since been stationed in the town, with a view of preserving its peace.

"Your memorialists believe that, if the inhabitants had had the benefit of a sound moral and religious culture in early life, the presence of an armed force to protect the peace of the town would not be needed in so comparatively small a place; and your memorialists are under a firm conviction that no better way can be devised for the removal of all disposition to vice and crime, than by enlightening the ignorant, and especially by sowing in early life, by the hands of the teacher, the seeds of religion and morality."

"The alarm occasioned by these disturbances has passed away; but I ascertained, by a careful inquiry among the persons best acquainted with the condition of the working classes, that even at the present day low and unprincipled publications, of a profane and seditious tendency, are much read by a class of the operatives; that private and secret clubs exist for the dissemination of such writings, by means of which the class of operatives have access to the writings of Paine and Volney, to Owen's tracts, and to newspapers and periodicals of the same pernicious tendency. It is stated that many persons who read such works also attend Sunday Schools, from their anxiety to obtain a knowledge of the art of reading, which they cannot otherwise acquire. It is the opinion of those who are best acquainted with the evils complained of, that the most efficacious remedy would be the circulation of intelligent publications on general subjects, within the comprehension of the working classes, by the help of reading-societies and circulating libraries, at terms which the operatives would be able to afford." V.

QUERIES.

ROMAN ROADS LEADING FROM CAER FLOS NEAR MONTGOMERY.—Are there any indications of roads leading from this Roman camp in the direction of the Severn towards Berriew or down towards Chirbury in the other direction? It is more than singular if there were not a Roman road leading down the Rea Valley from the Gaer, when we take into consideration the known fact that the Romans had extensive mine works in the Stiperstone district. It is possible some local tradition still exists in the district which it may have traversed, if there were a road, regarding it. I believe the appellation "Caer Flos" usually given in Guide Books, etc., to the earth work at the Gaer is an error, which originated through the two words being engraved on the Old Ordnance Sheet of the district as if they belonged to one compound, whereas they refer, the first to the earth work, the other to the land belonging to the Burgesses of the town of Montgomery.

HAFREN.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE EARTHWORKS.—On a farm called *Penygaer*, in the parish of Bettws, near Newtown, there is a fine old earthwork. There is also one farther west, on some high ground between the village of Bettws, and in the direction of Aberhafesp. Are there any local traditions connected with these works? If any correspondent of *Bye-Gones*, living in the vicinity, could describe the form, area enclosed within the ditches, and what, if any, similar works can be seen from each of them, he would confer a favour. Or if he would say whether there are any other remains in or about that neighbourhood, such as *Tumuli*; or they might locally be spoken of as "Tumps." The works above referred to lie out of the Severn Valley, and it is difficult to suggest for what object they could have been thrown up unless it were for tribal refuges in case of trouble. Any information about them would be of interest.

KELT.

REPLIES.

MONTGOMERY BOROUGHS (July 21, 1886).—In the official return of Members of Parliament *Montgomery Borough* is mentioned from 1541 to 1701. In 1680 (according to the *Mont. Coll.*, Vol 11, page 314) a reso-

lution was passed to the effect that the election of a Burgess to serve in Parliament "doth not belong to Montgomery only," and in 1702 the title is "Montgomery, Llanidloes, Pool, and Llanfylling Borough." [I see that at the same time "Flint" becomes "Flint, Rhuddlan, Caerwys, Caergwyley, Overton Borough;" while Denbigh had changed to "Denbigh, Lleon (alias Holt) and Ruthin Borough" in 1685, and in 1702 was called "Denbigh, including Lleon and Ruthin Borough."] In 1713 the name again becomes "Montgomery Borough," and the same change occurs in Flint and Denbigh, but this does not seem to point to any alteration in the constituency, for, according to the paper in the *Mont. Coll.* (Vol. 11, p. 314), on the 16th of April, 1728, a resolution of the Committee of Privileges was passed, by which the contributory boroughs of Llanidloes, Machynlleth, Llanfyllin, and Welshpool, were disfranchised (in consequence, says Lewis, in his *Topographical Dictionary*, of refusing to contribute towards the expense of the member, namely 13s. 4d. for each borough!), and the right of election was declared to be in the burgesses of Montgomery only. By an Act passed in 1784 the disfranchised boroughs were empowered to assert their right before a Committee, but they remained unrepresented until the passing of the Reform Act of 1832. Machynlleth, it should be added, does not appear to have exercised the right given to it by the resolution of 1680. The title of Montgomery Borough, Denbigh Borough, and Flint Borough continues in the official return from 1713 to the final date, 1874, and the mere name in the return therefore gives us very little help. The Town Clerk of Montgomery can perhaps give additional information, which could not fail to be interesting to many of the inhabitants of the Boroughs. E. W.

CURRENT NOTES.

Three hawfinches were shot by Mr P. H. Wright at Welshpool last week.

The Rev David Thomas, D.D., has written to claim the honour of originating the University College of Wales at Aberystwyth.

The vast work of deepening the Dee from Chester to the sea is rapidly proceeding. The channel for the ebb tide flow of the tide has been straightened, and is much deeper. The consequence is that steamers of heavy draught can come right up to Connah's Quay. The steamer *Eleanor*, for instance, which before was unable to enter the Dee, has just successfully discharged a cargo for the North Wales Paper Company at Connah's Quay.

The following passage is taken from a letter of Mr J. O. Halliwell Phillips, in the *New York Nation*:—"By one of the most singular accidents of the kind that have ever occurred, the original title deeds of Shakspeare's estate at New Place have been discovered in the archives of a county family in Shropshire, and have found their way—mirabile dictu—to Hollingbury Copse. One of them is torn, but the other five, dating from 1532 to 1602, are as perfect as when they were in the poet's own rooms."

The graveyard surrounding the ancient church of Selattyn being absolutely filled, the necessity for additional burying ground has been long apparent. The want has been supplied by Lord Harlech, who has very gener-

ously presented the parish with a piece of land adjoining the old churchyard, and of nearly the same dimensions. Lord Harlech not only gave the ground, but at his own cost laid it out with convenient walks, and encircled it with a substantial stone wall. The ceremony of consecrating the new burial ground took place on Friday, the consecration being performed by the Bishop of St. Asaph.

A curious case has been brought up for hearing before the Pontypridd magistrates, in which a widow named Elizabeth Hughes, aged 103 years, residing on the Graig Mountain, was charged with stealing a cheque for £5 14s. It appears she had gone to an insurance agent for her policy, and whilst there the postman placed a letter on the table for the agent. The aged widow seized the letter and left. She was followed home by the police, who found the letter and cheque in her possession. In reply to the magistrates, Mrs Hughes said she was 102 years old. She thought she was only taking the policy from the agent's office. The case was withdrawn in consideration of her great age.

OSWESTRY AND WELSHPOOL NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.—The third excursion for 1886 took place on Wednesday, July 21. The party met at Pant station at twelve, and ascended Llanymynech hill to the Ogo cave, where they took refuge during a thunderstorm. Thence they descended the hill on the south west side to Carreghofa, and followed the Tanat feeder to the Causeway Lane, and walked along it to the Roman camp, Clawdd Coch, which stands very clearly marked out in a strong position on the banks of the Vyrnwy. Having walked round the camp they kept along the river to Newbridge, and up past Bryn Mawr to the Court House, where they had been invited to tea, and were most hospitably entertained by Mr and Mrs Walker. After tea the party ascended the ridge above the house, from which a most extensive view was obtained. A vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Walker for their hospitality, and to Mrs Manford of Llwyn, who presided at the tea, was proposed by the Rev J. Griffith, seconded by Mr Dovaston, and carried unanimously. The party returned from Four Crosses by the 7 15 train. Among the plants found may be mentioned the vervain, pyramidal orchis, the rock rose, lesser scabious (*scabiosa columbaria*), *asplenium trichomanes*, and *ruta-muraria*. There were present the Rev D. P. Lewis, president, Col. and Mrs Barnes, Mr and Mrs H. Barnes, and Master Barnes, Mr Dovaston, Mr Dovaston, jun., and the Revs J. Griffith, J. Morris, W. Rees, H. R. Scott, and O. M. Feilden. The balance sheet of the conversazione held in the Mission Room at Oswestry shows that £2 12s 6d was received in tickets, and the expenses amounted to £2 9s 6d, leaving 3s to be placed to the club account.

THE RE-OPENING OF RHYDYCROESAU CHURCH.

After undergoing thorough restoration, the picturesque situated parish church of Rhydydroesau was re-opened on Thursday, and the chancel having been extended the addition was consecrated by the Bishop of St. Asaph. Previously to its thorough restoration the church was in a deplorably dilapidated state; the roof was of a very flat pitch, and the slates and timber had completely perished; the flat-headed wooden window frames were quite rotten, and the floor of the church was also decayed. The unrestored church had a west gallery, and with its removal has disappeared a curious relic of the past. In the gallery was fixed a square music stand with corresponding seats for a full band, and surviving scholars of the late Canon Williams, as well as the oldest inhabitant, may remember the time when the singing in the church was led by

this band. Soon after his preferment to the living, the present Rector, the Rev Richard Jones, set about the task of restoring the church, and in time a faculty was obtained, and the work placed in the hands of Mr W. H. Spaul, architect, of Oswestry and Shrewsbury. The roof has been entirely renewed at a sharper pitch, with ornamental timbers of pitchpine, boards being substituted for the older white washed ceiling, and the old flat-headed wooden window frames have been replaced by frames of Grinshill stone, pointed and cusped headed, with Corsham stone interior dressings. The old square-framed pews have given place to neat and comfortable open benches, with moulded solid ends. At the east end a moulded Corsham stone arch leads to the new chancel, and the east wall contains a three-light trefoil tracery headed window, and the chancel is further lighted by two windows north and south, of a single light, and with traceried heads. A door on the north side of the chancel admits to a new vestry. The church consists of a nave, with the chancel, the sacristy, and the vestry, all laid with encaustic tiles, supplied and laid by Mr J. C. Edwards of Ruabon. The church is admirably lighted, and the windows are filled with cathedral glass, arranged in geometrical panes by Mr John Davies of Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury. The carpenter's and joiner's work has been done by Messrs Pryce and Charles Davies, natives of the parish, who have taken the greatest delight in carrying out their share of the restoration. Messrs Davies have also presented the lectern, which is their own work, and which is in character with the other furniture of the church. The timber was supplied by Mr Thomas Evans of Oswald-road, Oswestry; and the stone work was carried out by Mr Pardo of Oswestry, who has presented the church with a neat stone font. The church is heated by one of Mr Truswell's hot air apparatuses.

SALE OF HAWKSTONE LIBRARY.

Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge, on Friday and Saturday, July 23 and 24, offered for sale a portion of the Hawkstone library, the property of Viscount Hill. The sale was divided into 375 lots, and the total sum realized was £950 5s 6d, the highest figure being £230 for Gould's Birds of Australia, with supplement, an 8 vol. subscription copy, with beautiful engravings, including some cancelled plates. The next figure was £96 for J. Grolhier's copy, with his autograph on the last page, of Justinianus "De Origine Urbis Venetiarum Rebusque a Venetis gestis" (Venetiis 1534). Both works were bought by Mr Quaritch, who also became the purchaser at high figures of most of the volumes of Gould's ornithological works. In octavos and smaller sizes, an Elzevir edition of Beroalde de Verville *Moyen de parvenir*, described as very scarce, was sold for a shilling, and other Elzevirs went at similarly low prices. E. Davies's Celtic Researches (1804) realized six shillings; De Courcy's collection of Psalms and Hymns, printed at Shrewsbury in 1732, sold for two shillings; C. Hulbert's Museum of the World, in four volumes, with map and plates, published at Shrewsbury in 1822-5, fetched a shilling; a lot of hymn books, including the Shrewsbury Hymn Book, with supplement, was sold for four shillings; and the Iolo Manuscripts, a selection of ancient Welsh MSS. in prose and verse from the collection of Iolo Morganwg, with translations and notes by his son, T. Williams, published at Llandoverly in 1848, was sold for fifteen shillings. In quartos, one Breches Bible sold (with others) for three shillings, but it was "sold with all faults;" and an imperfect Breches Bible was sold for two shillings; Bather's Historie of Bees, contain-

ing an autograph of "Rowd. Hill," was sold for six shillings; twenty-five parts (one missing) of a large paper edition with proof plates of Cathrall's History of North Wales, published at Manchester in 1828, coupled with another work, was sold for four shillings; four volumes of the Copper Plate Magazine, with 200 views in Great Britain and Ireland (1792-1800), coupled with another work, was sold for £1 8s; Harwood's History of Lichfield (Gloucester, 1806) realized £1 4s; two volumes of Bishop Heber's Journey through India (1828) were sold for two shillings; Herbert de Cherbury's (E. Baro) de Religione Gentilium (Amsterdam, 1663) was sold for a shilling; Heywood's Life of Merlin, with his strange prophecies (1641), was sold for the same sum; a manuscript containing hymns, prayers, and meditations by the Rev Rowland Hill (Hawtstone, March 29, 1811), was sold for sixteen shillings; Hulbert's Cheshire Antiquities (the engravings by J. Strutt, Shrewsbury, 1838) was sold for nine shillings; and the same author's Memoirs of seventy years of an eventful life (1848-52), printed by himself at his private press at Providence Grove, near Shrewsbury, realized 13s. In folios Walton's Biblia Sacra Polyglotta with the Republican Preface (1657-69) was sold for £10 15s; Blakeway's Sheriffs of Shropshire, with coats of arms and uncut (Shrewsbury, 1831) was sold for £1 9s; Campbell's (C) Vitruvius Britannicus, in three volumes, with plates (a few additional, including original designs for Hawkstone Library (1715-25) realized 8s. Amongst the octavos and other smaller sizes sold on the second day was a copy of "Manchester Vindicated," reprinted from the *Chester Courant* (1749); M. de Roden's Funeral of the Mass, translated by R. Hill (1716) was sold amidst a lot for 5s; Amor's Effigies et Carmen Lapidarium Memoriam Ben Jonsoni (R. Waring, 1668) with an autograph, "Row. Hill ex Dono Fran. Lloyd, Ann. D. 68," was sold for 4s, and a lot which realized eight shillings contained an Elegy on R. Jones (Bristol, 1748) in one volume, which is described as very rare. In the quartos E. Lloyd's Antiquities of Shropshire, enlarged by T. F. Dukes (Shrewsbury, 1844) was sold for £1 6s, and a volume of Lockhart's Spanish Ballads, with vignettes by Owen Jones (1841) realized 14s; a Survey of St. Asaph Cathedral, with plates (B. Willis, 1720), was sold for 3s; T. Phillips's History and Antiquities of Shrewsbury, with continuation by C. Hulbert (Providence Grove, 1828-37) was sold for 8s, and a copy of which one part was missing was sold for half that sum; T. Pugh's British and Outlandish Proverbs (1658) was sold for a sovereign; and a collection of portraits, including Lord Hill, after Pickersgill, Sir P. de Malpas Grey Egerton, Sir R. Hill, Viscount Dunganon, and the Hon. T. Kenyon, was sold for six shillings.

The Late Rev. Roger Edwards, of Mold.

We regret to record the death at the age of seventy-five years of the Rev. Roger Edwards, of Mold, Moderator of the North Wales Calvinistic Methodist Association. Mr. Edwards died at his residence, Hill Grove, on Monday, July 19. The rev. gentleman, who was one of the oldest and most esteemed ministers in the Calvinistic Methodist Connexion, had resided in Mold since 1835, and had been a minister for more than fifty years, during which period he laboured actively. He was at the time of his death Moderator for the second time. He was one of the oldest contributors to the Welsh Press and was for several years joint editor of the Welsh Quarterly, *Y Traethodydd*, originator and compiler of the popular Calvinistic Methodist Diary, and during the earlier period of his life was better known as editor of

"*Cronicl yr Oes*." The reverend gentleman also edited the *Drysorfa* for upwards of forty years. He was editor of the Calvinistic Methodist Hymn Book, in addition to other works of his own, and he also acted as secretary to the Calvinistic Methodist Association for upwards of forty years. Mr Edwards had been chairman of the Mold School Board since its formation in 1876, and was also author of one of the best Welsh novels, entitled "Y Tri Brawd." The reverend gentleman was present at the recent meetings of the Association at Oswestry and took part in the proceedings as Moderator. He attended the weekly Church meeting at Mold on Thursday evening, July 8, at the New-street Chapel, when he appeared in his usual health. On the following afternoon, however, he was found prostrate in his study, having been seized with a stroke which rendered him unconscious. The news of the reverend gentleman's sudden illness caused a painful sensation throughout the town of Mold, but his condition was somewhat improved under the medical care of his son, Dr. D. Edwards. On Monday a relapse took place, and had a fatal result. After he was attacked by his illness Mr Edwards received a letter from Hamilton College, holding a high position in the State of New York, offering him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. The deceased gentleman was the father of the Rev. Ellis Edwards, M.A., Professor at the Calvinistic Methodist College at Bala. The funeral, which was a public one, took place on Friday, July 23, and was attended by an immense concourse of people, the remains being interred in the public cemetery, Mold.

AUGUST 4, 1886.

NOTES.

A CHESHIRE CENTENARIAN. — The *Daily Universal Register* for May, 1785, contained the following:—"Died a man named Froome, at Holmes Chapel, in Cheshire, at the wonderful age of 125 years and 8 months. This patriarchal rarity was guardian to the late John Smith Barry, Esq., who left him an annuity of £50 per year, which he enjoyed with unusual health until about two days before his death. He has a son now living turned of 90, who works at a factory in Lancashire, and promises fair to arrive at as great an age as his father."

VERAX.

Oswestry.

QUERIES.

SHAKSPEARE'S ESTATE.—It would be interesting to know which of the county families of Shropshire possesses the title-deeds of Shakspeare's estate at New Place, Stratford, mentioned by Mr Halliwell Phillips in the letter quoted by the *Oswestry Advertiser* last week.

E. W.

LOCAL WEIGHTS, MEASURES, &c., IN MONTGOMERYSHIRE. — Could any contributor to this column give a list of the names of the old Welsh measures for corn which either formerly were or at the present time are in vogue in this county. Stating what quantity relative to the present imperial measure each represented; also if there were any weights differing from the standard sixteen ounces used in the sale of wool, butter, cheese, &c., and their relative proportions; and if there were or are any trade weights in connection

with carding, slubbing, and generally in connection with wool in the preparatory stages of flannel manufacture. Also if he could say what is the customary toll taken at a corn mill for grinding say three bushels of wheat, and if the toll is uniform through the county. An answer would oblige
E. R. M.

REPLIES.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE EARTHWORKS.—(July 28, 1886).—A good deal may be written in reply to "Kelt's" inquiry as to Penygaer and other earthworks, and when the harvest is over I shall have something to say on the subject.
T. H. J.

CURRENT NOTES.

The life of Professor Morgan, late of Carmarthen College, by his son, is announced for early publication by Mr Elliot Stock.

A new operetta entitled, "The two poets," written by Mr W. Herbert Scott, late of Shrewsbury, and composed by Mr Edward Jerman, R.A.M., of Whitchurch, has been performed at the Royal Academy of Music, where it was very favourably received. It is proposed to give performances of the work at Shrewsbury and Whitchurch in the course of the present year.

The death is announced of Miss Mary Cecil Hay, a native of Shrewsbury, and a sister of Mr Walter Hay's. Miss Hay died on July 24, after a long illness. She was a popular novelist, her first novel being "Hidden Perils," published in 1872, and amongst her stories were "Old Myddleton's Money," "Norah's Love Test," "Victor and Vanquished," and "Lester's Secret." Some of our Shrewsbury readers will remember Miss Hay's father, who for many years was a watchmaker and jeweller in the Market Square, Shrewsbury.

LOCAL POOR RATES.—From a return of Poor Rates recently ordered by the House of Commons, it appears that in 1847 the ratable value of the Oswestry Incorporation was £106,806, and that the poor rate, at 1s 2½d, produced £6,452. The corresponding figures in 1884 were £185,520, 1s 6½d, and £14,289. The ratable value of the Ellesmere Union in 1847 was £90,131, and the rate of 1s 4d produced £6,000; in 1884 the ratable value had risen to £128,410, and a rate of 1s 1d produced £6,954. In 1847 the ratable value of the Whitchurch Union was £23,353, and a rate of 2s 0½d produced £2,349; in 1884 the ratable value had risen to £90,881, and a rate of 1s 4d produced £6,092. The ratable value of the Wem Union in 1847 was £76,211, and a rate of 1s 1d produced £4,151; in 1884 the ratable value was £91,986, and a rate of 1s 2½d produced £5,354. The ratable value of the Machynlleth Union in 1847 was £35,721, and a rate of 4s 4½d produced £7,844; in 1884 the ratable value was £54,581, and a rate of 2s 8d produced £7,263. The ratable value of the Newtown and Llanidloes Union in 1847 was £100,991, and a rate of 3s produced £15,104; in 1884 the ratable value had risen to £123,022, and a rate of 2s 1½d produced £17,972. The ratable value of the Forden Union in 1847 was £92,461, and a rate of 1s 10½d produced £8,707; in 1884 its ratable value was £125,814, a rate of 1s 5½d, producing £8,997. The ratable value of the Llanfyllion Union in 1847 was £87,890, and a rate of 2s 6½d produced £11,046; in 1884 the ratable value was £137,680, and a rate of 2s 1½d produced £14,521. In 1847 the ratable value of the Wrexham Union was £145,618, and a rate of 1s 1½d produced

£14,115; in 1884 the ratable value was £227,603, and a rate of 3s 0½d produced £34,830. In 1847 the ratable value of the Corwen Union was £52,568, and a rate of 1s 1½d produced £5,051; in 1884 the ratable value was £75,329, and a rate of 2s 6½d produced £9,564.

DEATH OF THE REV DAVID ROBERTS, M.A., RECTOR OF LLANELIDAN, NEAR RUTHIN.—The Rev D. Roberts, whose death has been recorded, was the last surviving son of the late Rev. William Roberts, M.A., of Gallyberen, in Carnarvonshire, Justice of the Peace, and Deputy Lieutenant for that county. The Rev. David Roberts was educated at Friars School and at Oxford, where he gained an Exhibition at Jesus College. He graduated B.A. in 1837, and proceeded M.A. in 1840. He was ordained deacon by the Bishop of Chester in 1839 for St. David's Church, Liverpool. In 1841 Mr Roberts became curate of Llanellidan, and in 1857 he was appointed rector of the parish by the late Bishop of Bangor, Bishop Bethel. The Bishop, in presenting the living to Mr Roberts, did so in the warmest terms of commendation, and this praise was worthily won by the unostentatious but hard-working curate. In 1845, while curate of the parish of Llanellidan, Mr Roberts was instrumental in erecting a National Schoolroom, which in 1875 he enlarged. This was a great boon to the parish, and was greatly appreciated by the parishioners, and the schools, under the management of the Rector, have been and are in a very flourishing condition, being reported on by H.M. Inspector, and the Diocesan Inspector of Schools, in terms of high commendation. In 1852 Mr Roberts raised funds for the partial restoration of the Parish Church, which before that time had a mud floor, and irregular pews and benches, and in 1875 the church was further improved by scraping away from the pillars and windows the white-wash of ages, and the church walls were at the same time plastered over. This work was done at a considerable cost, a great part of which was borne by the late Rector. In 1883 the churchyard was enlarged and consecrated. The expenses connected with the addition to the churchyard were met by a voluntary rate levied by the parishioners. Other works of a social nature were inaugurated by the late rector. A Clothing Club was started forty-three years ago, the second in the Vale of Clwyd, and in 1876 another Clothing Club was established in connection with the Sunday School. In 1882 a Young Men's Friendly Society was established, and in connection with this Society a library has been lately established. Mr Roberts had in contemplation the thorough restoration of the parish church, but this work will devolve upon his successor. For some years past the health of the rev. gentleman had been failing, and he looked forward with pleasure to the time when he should be assisted by his son in the work of his parish. He lived to see his son, the Rev F. Roberts, ordained at the last Trinity ordination, but his days were few after this event took place. Mr Roberts leaves a widow and family to mourn their loss, and after a residence of forty years in the rectory their home will now be broken up. The deceased gentleman was in his seventy-first year, being born August 6, 1815. The funeral, which was a public one, took place on July 25, and it was largely attended by parishioners and the clergy of the neighbourhood.

THE LATE MR. RICHARD KYRKE PENSON, F.S.A., ARCHITECT.—The following memoir of this gentleman has appeared in the *Builder*.—After the very just and well-merited compliment paid to the memory of this gentleman by Professor Kerr, on the occasion of the announcement of Mr Penson's decease by Mr W. H. White, at the Royal Institute of British Architects, our readers will perhaps

be interested to learn some fuller details of his professional history. Richard Kyrke Penson was the eldest son of the late Mr Thomas Penson, F.R.I.B.A. and M. Inst. C.E., architect, of Wrexham, who held the appointments of county surveyor in Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire, surveyor to the first, second, and third districts of the Montgomeryshire Roads, surveyor to the Oswestry District of Roads, &c. Mr Kyrke Penson was, we believe, born at Oswestry, and was in his seventy-first year at the time he died, viz., on May 22nd last. He was sent to London to prosecute his studies for about five years, from 1843 to 1848, during which period he became a member of the old Water Colour Society, of which Mr Henry Warren was at that time president. Mr Penson became an early exhibitor, and had then acquired some distinction as a water colour painter. This connection lasted for many years afterwards, when he continued to exhibit very clever and effective sketches. He also became an F.S.A. and F.R.I.B.A. Mr Penson afterwards returned to Wales. In 1852 he read a paper on "Ludlow Church" before the Cambrian Archaeological Association an abstract of which will be found printed in the *Builder* for September 4th of that year. In or about the year 1857 he was appointed county surveyor for Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire, and was then associated with Mr A. Ritchie, now of Chester, architect, who subsequently became his partner and successor. Mr Penson then became established in very extensive practice; he went to reside at Ferryside, Carmarthenshire, and Mr Ritchie established the offices at Swansea, conducting among other works then in hand extensive alterations and restoration of Dynevor Castle, for Lord Dynevor. In 1859, Mr Penson's father died, and his son succeeded him in most of his public appointments, and the younger son, Mr Thomas Mainwaring Penson, became well-known and established in practice as an architect at Chester, where he died in June, 1864. Besides Dynevor Castle, Llandilo, Carmarthenshire, Mr R. K. Penson designed alterations and additions to Bronwydd, in the same county, for Mr, afterwards Sir T. D. Lloyd, Bart.; also the new church of St. Mark, Wrexham; new residence for Mr F. R. Roberts, near Aberystwyth; restoration of St. Peter's Church, Ruthin, Denbighshire; St David's Church, Carmarthen; the new vicarage houses for St. David's and St. Peter's Churches, Carmarthen; Christ Church (new) and St. Peter's Church Schools, Carmarthen; and St. Peter's new Church, Llanelli. At Swansea and in the neighbourhood the following works were executed by him:—New church and school buildings at the Cockit; new National Schools, Oystermouth-road; rebuilding and restoration of Oystermouth (the Mumbles) Church; additions to Kilvey Church; also restoration of Llanrhyddan and Penmaen Churches, and new church at Morriston. In Pembrokeshire, the churches at Amroth, Angle, St. Petrox, Roch, Rosemarket, &c. Also in Carmarthenshire, further, the churches rebuilt, altered, and restored, at Llandarrog, Llanedy, Llanllwch, Llandefilog, Bettws, Mothvey, Merthyr, Llanglydwen, Llanfihangel-y-Croyddin, Laugharne, and Llanilar, and Velinford new church, Llanelli. He was also engaged upon residences and parsonage houses at Talgarth, for Captain Thruston; Llidiarde, near Aberystwyth; at Westfar, Velinford, Llanelli, for, Mr C. W. Nevill; new Vicarage, Llanedy; National Schools at Aberystwyth; new church, schools, and residence at Ferryside, Carmarthenshire; Brynbo and Minera new schools, Denbighshire; new offices and buildings for the Provincial Insurance Company, Wrexham; new schools at Ludlow; schools and dispensary, Oswestry; Penybont new church, near Oswestry, &c.; and upon numerous

county works, lock-up houses, bridges, &c. Mr Penson died at his residence, Dinham House, Ludlow, after a long and painful illness, and was buried in Ludlow cemetery. He was a magistrate for the borough, but of late years was unable to attend the meetings. He retired from practice as an architect in 1864, when, as we have said, he was succeeded by Mr A. Ritchie of Chester, who had been associated with him as assistant and partner many years previously.

AUGUST 11, 1886.

NOTES.

OLD TIMES.—The following are extracts from the "London Magazine":—April, 1742. Publications: A Collection of Welsh Travels and Memoirs of Wales, dedicated to W. Myddleton, Esq., late High Sheriff of Denbighshire, containing—1. The Briton Described, or a Journey through Wales; being a pleasant relation of Dean Sw—t's journey to that ancient kingdom, with some humorous observations on the Manners, Customs, and Mighty Actions of that Country and People. 2. A Trip to North Wales, by a Barrister of the Temple. 3. A Funeral Sermon, preach'd by the Parson of Langullin, on the ten-and-twentieth chapter of Maccabees. 4. The Welch Schoolmaster, by Dr. King. 5. Muscipula, or the Welch Mousetrap, a poem in Latin and English. Collected by J. T., a mighty lover of Welch travels, adorned with several curious plates. Published by J. Torbuck, 8vo, price 1s. 6d., stitch'd. June 29.—Samuel Pennant, Esq., an eminent West India Merchant, and one of the Common Council Men for Cheap Ward, was unanimously elected Alderman of Bishopsgate Ward in the room of the Right Hon. Sir Robert Godschall, deceased. BOILEAU.

EPITAPH AT THE PRIORY CHURCH, BRECON. The following was noted by Thomas Dinely, Esq., who accompanied the Duke of Beaufort in his Tour through North and South Wales, in the capacity of secretary, in 1684. This note was made on Aug. 8 of that year:—

At the head of the tombstone is seen a wooden monument, with Rimes about it in Old English Character. There is but one large figure left thereon, the rest were said to be burnt by ye Usurper's Soulders. It belonged to a good family, the Games's of *Aberbrain*.

This Thomas he of Godlie seale

Upon this monney spent;

To shewe theyre race from whens they came

By this theyre Monument.

O Thomas Games, God graunte thee grace

To judge of Goode and Evell;

Thye daughters, wyffe, to serve God daylye,

To fight against the Devell.

Man's lyffe is vaine, you see

As Scripture playne doth saye,

Like pilgrims poore we runne our race,

And then restore to claye.

Is Sampson yett alyve

For all hys mighty strenght;

Both Solomon and Absalom

Hath yelde to Death at liength.

And Abraham he is dead,

As Scripture tels hit trew;

Ould Gallen he hath left his books,

And Physic byddes aduee.

HD. J.

QUERIES.

THE NIGHTINGALE IN NORTH WALES.—Can any authentic instance be given of the song of the nightingale being heard in North Wales, and if so, in what precise locality, and at what date precisely? It is said to have been heard at Rhyd-y-Cilgwyn, a farm in the neighbourhood of Ruthin, for the space of a week in the spring of 1884. H.W.L.

REPLIES.

MACHYNLLETH.—RINGING A HANDBELL BEFORE A FUNERAL.—(June 16, 30, 1886.)—The custom referred to by DYFI as being prevalent at Machynlleth twenty-five years ago, of ringing a small hand bell before the approach of a funeral, and said by your correspondent J. LLOYD to be still kept up when a public funeral takes place at the parish church, also exists, if I am not mistaken, at Aberystwyth. Being on a visit to that town on July 24, and walking with a friend up Great Darkgate-street, early in the afternoon, when near the clock tower we met the town crier with his bell in his hand, walking down on the other side of the street. Every dozen yards or so he allowed the clapper of the bell, which he held hanging down, to give a single stroke. Wondering when he would stop, and curious to know what he had to announce, I said to my companion, "Wait, let us hear what the old Bellman has to say," when a woman standing near, overhearing my remark, said—"Oh, he is not going to 'cry' anything, he rings his bell like that to tell the people that a funeral is coming this way." We did not, however, stay to see the procession. It would be interesting to know whether the custom is generally observed in Aberystwyth and other places in Cardiganshire, or in any other parts of Wales. BONWM.

CURRENT NOTES.

The current number of the *Graphic* contains a portrait of Lieutenant-Colonel Kenyon Slaney, M.P.

A fountain has been erected in front of St. David's Church, Barmouth, in honour of Mr and Mrs Ricketts, who presented a supply of water to the town.

Mr C. T. W. Parry, a J.P. for the city of Chester, and Chief Registrar of her Majesty's Court of Probate at Chester, died on Thursday afternoon.

It is stated that Mary Roberts, who left Llanddewi Brefi for America about 1726, was the great great grandmother of Mr Beecher.

Premises have been secured for a hall of residence for female students of the University College of North Wales at Bangor, and Miss Fanny Hughes of Carmarthen has been appointed lady principal.

The death is announced of Sarah Marshall, a widow, residing on the Welsh hills at Nantyglo, at the great age of 107 years. The certificate of her baptism states that she was baptised on the 11th of May, 1779.

A body of 470 emigrants, many of them from the neighbourhood of Festiniog, have arrived in South America to settle on the banks of the Chupat, or to assist in constructing the railway which is to connect the Welsh Colony with Port Madryn,

Mr John Owen of Holywell, Flintshire, a Liverpool merchant, who died recently in that city, has left a legacy of £500 towards the Welsh Wesleyan North Wales Chapel Fund. He has also left a bequest of £6,000 to the Wesleyan Foreign Missionary Society.

The arrangement under which the Cymmrodorion Society proposed to issue to the members a copy of Mr Gwenogfryn Evans's version of the "Red Book of Hergest," has unfortunately fallen through. Owing to a misunderstanding with the Clarendon Press Mr Evans is not able to supply the work on the terms originally agreed upon, and the Society under the circumstances has no alternative but to cancel the agreement. It is understood, however, that Mr Gwenogfryn Evans intends to persevere with the publication of the work, and it is to be seriously hoped that he will get that general support which his venture so well deserves.

The Marquess of Bute, as President of the National Eisteddfod Association, in addition to publishing the "Alcestis" and the two successful translations, for which he gave a prize of £100 at the last Eisteddfod, has generously offered to present each member of the Association with a copy of the work. The book will be printed on handmade paper, and in a form worthy of the donor's munificence. I understand that amongst the new Vice-Presidents of the Association are the following recently elected members of Parliament:—The Hon. Arthur Walsh, Mr W. Bowen Rowlands, Q.C., Mr Thomas E. Ellis, and Mr Thomas Lewis.

The opening by the Duke of Westminster of the Grosvenor Museum of Natural History and Archaeology, with Schools of Science and Art for Chester, Cheshire, and North Wales, took place on Monday. The building has been christened the "Grosvenor Museum" in recognition of the munificence of the Duke of Westminster, who, when at a meeting about a year ago in support of the building fund, headed the subscription list with £4,000. His Grace also gave the greater portion of the site which is on the Grosvenor-road. The building, from an architectural point of view, is exceedingly handsome, having an excellent frontage to the Grosvenor-road, near Chester Castle, and it may be described as Anglicised Renaissance, which was prevalent during the seventeenth century. It is the next modern building of importance to the Town Hall amongst the public buildings of the city. The decoration of its interior is on a most elaborate and chaste scale, with a splendidly worked Italian mosaic pavement in the entrance hall, and the staircase dado is of the same work. Stained glass windows have been placed in different parts of the building, whilst the city and county arms are made use of in an elegant manner. The scientific appliances and constructive design of the lecture theatre and laboratory are of the most improved modern type. The ground floor consists of a natural history museum, archaeological museum, art gallery, and a lecture theatre; first floor, science class rooms and laboratories; the upper floor magnificently lighted schools 66ft. in length.

REBUILDING OF ABERYSTWYTH COLLEGE.—The Council of Aberystwyth College met on Monday afternoon under the presidency of Mr Stephen Evans. The following members were present:—Messrs Stuart Rendel, M.P., J. H. Puleston, M.P., Lewis Morris, Morgan Lloyd, Q.C., the Hon. W. Napier Bruce, Messrs Lewis Angell, A. C. Humphreys-Owen, T. Jeremy Thomas, John Hughes, C.C., the Rev W. Hawker Hughes, and Miss E. P. Hughes. The report of the Building Committee recommending the restoration of the old college building was adopted. Mr Seddon's plans will be laid before the Com-

mittee without delay for such modifications as may be found necessary, and no time will be lost in preparing working drawings and advertising for tenders. Mr Puleston, Mr Lewis Morris, and Miss E. P. Hughes, were added to the Building Committee.

SHROPSHIRE PROPERTY IN THE LONDON MART.—On Wednesday, at the City of London Auction Mart, Fokenhouse Yard, was submitted for sale the important and extensive freehold residential domain of Arley Castle, on the borders of the counties of Stafford, Salop, and Worcester, in the valley of the Severn, about six miles from Bridgnorth and Kidderminster. The property, which is situated on both sides of the river, comprised about 3,314 acres, divided into twenty-one farms let to solvent and respectable tenants, and providing a rental of £4,200 a-year, exclusive of the mansion, woods, and land in hand. A reduction of 25 per cent was conceded to the tenants within the last ten years to meet the prevailing agricultural depression. Mr. Oakley said that a very large sum had been spent in recent years by the owner, Lord Mountmorres, upon the farms, buildings, drainage, and other improvements, and the property was at present in as good condition as any estate of its extent in the midland counties. The biddings started with an offer of £75,000, and did not advance beyond £95,000, the highest sum tendered. The property was bought in, the reserve price mentioned by the auctioneer being £110,000.

THE CARADOC FIELD CLUB.—The third excursion for the season of the Caradoc Field Club was to Tong, the ruins of Whiteladies, and to Boscobel House. Twenty-five members met at the Shrewsbury station in the morning, and on their arrival at Shifnal they drove to Tong, where they were met by Mr George Griffiths, the author of an excellent guide book to Tong Church. Mr Griffiths acted as conductor of the party. From Tong the party drove to Whiteladies, where a halt was made for the inspection of the ruins of the chapel, which are all that now remain of the Cistercian Convent of St. Leonard in the Forest of Brewood. For many years it formed a retiring place for the daughters of the neighbouring wealthy families, many of whom became professed nuns of the foundation. At the dissolution of monasteries it passed into lay hands, and the conventual buildings were used as a dwelling-house, all traces of which and of the surrounding hamlet have now disappeared. The chapel ruin was, for many years, a Roman Catholic burying ground. Within the enclosure myrris odorata was found growing in great profusion, possibly as a survival of the nuns' herb garden. At Boscobel House the members examined the relics of King Charles II. The house, nominally built as a hunting lodge in Brewood Forest, was constructed as a hiding place for Roman Catholic priests, with every facility for concealment, and it was to these contrivances that King Charles owed his escape. Mr W. Ralph read a paper "On Boscobel and its neighbourhood," and there was the usual discussion as to the age of the "Royal Oak," the majority being of opinion that it was not the original tree, but a sapling from it. The party next drove through Weston Park to Shifnal, and after luncheon a visit was made to the church, where the members were met by Mr H. J. Osborne, who pointed out its chief features. Shifnal was an important ecclesiastical centre in Saxon times. The church was re-built by Robert Theobald, the first Norman lord of the manor, who gave the advowson to Shrewsbury Abbey; but, in the following century we find the presentation again in the hands of the lords of the manor. Thanks were accorded to Mr Griffiths, Mr Ralph, and Mr Osborne.

EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL CAMBRIAN ACADEMY.

Last week was announced the opening of the annual exhibition of the Royal Cambrian Academy in the premises of the Academy at Plas Mawr, Conway. The pictures in the exhibition are restricted to members and associates of the R.C.A., each of whom has also contributed a picture or drawing to the Plas Mawr restoration fund. About 50 pictures are offered as prizes, varying in value from 50 to five guineas, the total value of which will exceed £600. Next year being the Queen's jubilee, the Queen has been communicated with to ascertain whether she would accept an album or folio of original drawings contributed specially by members and associates. Mr Lawrence Banks, the honorary secretary, has received a gracious reply stating that her Majesty would have great pleasure in accepting the proffered folio of drawings. The present collection includes 115 pictures, distributed over five rooms. The list of contributors includes the names of Clarence Whaite, Alfred Slocumb, Peter Ghent, Frederick Tayler, S. J. Hodson, Charles Potter, E. A. Norbury, Jackson Carnock, B. Fowler, C. L. Saunders, J. C. Salmon, W. L. Banks, W. D. Barker, W. Meredith, J. M. Southern, B. Holte, F. T. Sibley, G. Harrison, J. H. Cole, W. Bennett, B. Ousey, A. W. Ayling, John Taylor, Artingstall, C. R. Grundy, J. Johnson, Charles Jones, T. H. Thomas, M. Jones, T. W. Allen, and the late D. K. Pen-son. In the first room, or 'Banqueting Hall,' is a large flower piece by Alfred Slocumb, better known as an etcher, called 'Treasures from Japan' (10), which has much to commend it in regard of execution. 'A Welsh Trout Stream' (29), by John Taylor, is a graphic representation of Porth Clwyd Mill, a torrent, trees, and rocks, painted with great care and conscientious truth. Mr W. Meredith has a sea piece (14), with fishing boats, painted in a broad, easy, and vigorous manner, which is a good study of tone. 'Deganwy Castle' (18), with figures, by George Hayes, though conventional in treatment, is carefully painted, and the artist has invested it with interest. On entering the kitchen, which has been arranged with drawings, the visitor is struck with the width and size of the Elizabethan fireplace, which is large enough to shelter a dozen people or to roast an ox. In this apartment the president is represented by his fine drawing of 'The Legendary Castle of Arran' (36), surmounted by mountains and granite peaks, and surrounded by water and river craft. In what is known as 'The Gwydir Room,' Mr Whaite is represented by his fine academy picture in oil representing the 'Awakening of Christian,' from Bunyan's 'Pilgrim's Progress.' In room No. 3, which is known as 'Queen Elizabeth's Room,' there is a date of 1577 and the initials E. R.; and in the next apartment, which goes by the name of 'The Queen's boudoir or drawing room,' are the same initials, and also those of the Earl of Leicester, executed in stucco. In this room is an interesting drawing, No. 48, by T. H. Thomas, representing a deep canon or gorge in the Yellow-ton range. Mr E. A. Norbury contributes several spirited impressions—'Conway Castle,' sunlight effect; 'A Fete at Calais,' night effect; and a view of the 'Foryd at Rhyl,' with shipping. Among other outdoor studies that are vigorously treated and well handled is an upright drawing, No. 60, by J. C. Salmon, representing 'Eigiau's rugged Craigs.' Already several drawings have been made of 'Plas Mawr,' one by Geo. Harrison, which is very truthful; another by Buckley Ousey, in which some Elizabethan figures are introduced. Two very noteworthy architectural drawings of Plas Mawr, which might almost be mistaken for line engravings, represent 'The South

Quad' and 'The East Gallery,' and are by Mr Herbert Baker, who has also made a ground plan of the building, besides studies of doorways, ceilings, jambs, and interesting details pertaining to this Elizabethan building. Two etchings by Alfred Slocomb are worthy of attention, viz., 'Oliver Cromwell' (109), which has been reproduced from the celebrated picture by Cooper; of the second one, which represents the 'Ramparts of Bruges,' it has been decided to present an impression to purchasers of a book of tickets who are not successful in winning a prize. Such, briefly, is the record of the initial exhibition of the Royal Cambrian Academy at Conway. The Academy have experienced such vicissitudes in their ventures at Rhyl, Llandudno, and Cardiff, that it is to be hoped that they are now successfully embarked in their new home at the head of the Conway Valley. We hear that steps have been taken for the formation of a club at Plas Mawr, and that it has been proposed to keep the doors open all the year round.

CYMRU FU.

The name Rebecca was given to certain riots in South Wales about the year 1843, the object being the destruction of the tollgates. The rioters were dressed in women's clothes, and called themselves "Rebecca's Daughters," being a distortion of a Scripture text which gave origin to the name. "And they blessed Rebecca, and said unto her, Let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them." Gen. xxiv. 60. Another version alleges that the tollgate at Efail Wen, in Cardiganshire, which was kept by one Rebecca Davies, was the first which was destroyed by the rioters. Rebecca bravely defended the gate, and the rioters adopted the name "Rebecca's Daughters," as a sarcasm on the old lady, who is still living, and residing in the neighbourhood.—*Cyfaill yr Aelwyd, July, 1886.*

William Lloyd of Bodidris-in-Yale, Sheriff of Carnarvon, under the Parliament in 1640, was the second husband of Ann Vaughan of Plas Hen, Eivion, and was killed in June, 1648, in a feud, in coming from Carnarvon, near Clynog, with Thomas Glyn, Edmund Glyn, and David Ellis, who were staunch Royalists. Information was sworn against the parties, dated January 5, 1649, by Thomas Wynn of Boduan, Llleyn, and their estates were sequestered. Richard Vaughan, the son of Ann Vaughan, by her first husband, possessed Plas Hen and Corsygedol, his wife being Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Owen of Clenenau and Brogyntyn. Richard Vaughan was M.P. for Merionethshire, and was so corpulent and bulky that they were obliged to open the big door of the House of Commons to let him in, which was seldom opened except when the Usher of the Black Rod and the members appeared before the House of Lords. When the door was opened the Lords used to whisper that the Black Rod or the Welsh Mayor was coming. Richard Vaughan succumbed after going under an operation at Corsygedol, performed by an eminent London practitioner; and his son William Vaughan possessed the estate under the guardianship of Sir John Owen.—*Geninen, July, 1886.*

Benlli Gawr had a son named Beli, who fell in battle, and his body was buried at Maes Mawr, in the parish of Llanarmon-yn-Iâl:—

Whose is the grave in the Maes Mawr?

Proud was his hand on the weapon of war;

It is the grave of Beli, the son of Benlli Gawr.

Maes Mawr lies on the mountain between Iâl and Ystrad Alun, above Rhyd y Gyvartha, and here occurred the great battle between Melir ab — and Beli ab Benlli Gawr, and where Beli was slain; and Meirion erected two stones, one at each end of the grave, which remained until the last forty years.

It was then that a wicked person, one Edward ab John ab Llywelyn of Iâl, owner of the piece of land which had been enclosed out of the mountain, where the grave and stones were, came and pulled up the stones, and placed them over the pipe of a limekiln. There, in consequence of the intense heat and great weight, they broke; whereupon he burnt them into lime in the kiln, though they had formed the boundaries of the grave for many hundred years, and a bad end happened unto him, who had thus defaced the grave of the deceased warrior.—*Powys Fadog, vol. 1, page 5.*

The following lines were composed by John Parry (Bardd Alaw) for the great National Eisteddfod, which was held at Welshpool in 1824:—

"DIM SAESNEG" ("NO ENGLISH"), OR A TOUR THROUGH WALES.

AIR—"Hunting the Hare."

Dick Dolby, a Dandy of Dowgate, determined

To view all the beauties and wonders of Wales;

To traverse her mountains so russet and lofty,

Her rocks and her rivers, her lakes and her vales.

On entering old Cambria he saw a strong castle,

Then hailing a shepherd with "Tell me, I pray,

Who owns that fine palace, so nobly uprising?"

"Dim Saesneg" said Morgan, and trudg'd on his way.

"Tim Saesneg is mighty to own such a dwelling,

I'll put on my whiskers and give him a call;"

Pursuing his journey, he saw a fine mansion,

Surrounded by *derw**, majestic and tall.

Dick met with a peasant, whom thus he accosted:

"I prithee inform me who owns that estate?"

The rustic look'd archly, the Dandy's dress viewing,

"Dim Saesneg" said he, as he jump'd o'er a gate!

"Pon honour, Tim Saesneg is great beyond measure,

I'll pay him a visit when fit to be seen;"

Then soon he beheld many rosy-cheek'd damsels

Around a blind minstrel dance on the grey green.

Delighted, he said, to a smiling old cottager,

"Tell me, good woman, whose daughters are those?"

"Dim Saesneg" said Lauri, continuing her knitting,

The Dandy, astounded, fell into a *ffost*.

At length he arrived where the bards held a meeting,

A scene that true Welshmen e'er view with regard;

For there rank and talent, with beauty, assemble,

To cherish the awen, and I merit reward,

"Who's the cause of all this, sir?" said Dick to a hogyn,

With his hosan heb ardas, a'i esgid heb waeg;

The reply was "Dim Saesneg," the poor fellow fainted—

"Oes y byd (cried y prydidd) i'r hen laith Gymraeg!"

The last four lines translated:—

"Who's the cause of all this, sir?" said Dick to a stripling,

With his hose without garters, his sandals unstrung;

The reply was "Dim Saesneg," the poor fellow fainted—

"The world's age (cried the bards) to the ancient Welsh tongue."

Llwyn Dedwydd.

LLYWARCH HEN.

AUGUST 18, 1886.

NOTES.

LORD CLIVE.—The India Office Records, which have recently been made public, contain several interesting references to the Shropshire hero, Lord Clive. The first mention of Clive is in a letter dated May 2, 1747—

Mr Robert Clive, writer in the service, being of a martial disposition, and having acted as a volunteer in our late engagements, we have granted him an ensign's commission upon his application for the same.

In 1749 Clive was charged with brawling, but a letter dated Nov. 2 exonerates him, and he is described as—

* Derw, Oak trees.

† Ffos, a Ditch.

"a very quiet person, and no ways guilty of disturbances." Two years afterwards Clive made his brilliant expedition to Arcot, of which there is this slight acknowledgment —

We cannot but with the greatest justice to his merit mention Mr Robert Clive, one of your Covenanted servants, who, when we were under a necessity for officers, voluntarily engaged himself without any consideration of pay, and has behaved with great courage and conduct.

W.O.

QUERIES.

LLAMEREWIG OR LLANMEREWIG.—The name of a parish near Newtown. The present mode of spelling the word is Llanmerewig. I have recently seen many documents (of no connection with each other) of various dates up to 300 years ago, and the name in these is without exception spelt *Llanmerewig*. Perhaps some reader of *Bye-Gones* can say which of these is the correct form and give the reason or reasons why.

ZETA.

REPLIES.

OLD GRAVE IN CORWEN CHURCHYARD (June 9, 1886).—In reply to AMGEINIAD ELLAN, I may say that his description of this grave makes me think it is the family grave of Evan Evans, Bart., of Montgomeryshire. It has not been attended to for quite a century. There is but one member of the family living at the present time.

E. BARNARD.

THE NIGHTINGALE IN NORTH WALES. (Aug. 11, 1886).—About six years ago great excitement was created in Newtown by a report that one or more nightingales were to be heard every evening at a spot near the entrance to the drive at Dolforwyn (now the residence of Captain Pryce Jones); this place is situated about five miles from Newtown, on the Welshpool road. I believe I do not exaggerate when I say hundreds of people went from Newtown night after night to hear these birds, and it was stated by persons who professed to know that they were undoubtedly nightingales. I fancy a reference to your own columns of the period would furnish the exact date, as I have little doubt your Newtown correspondent would furnish you with a paragraph about the matter at the time.

SABRINA.

CURRENT NOTES.

The death of the late William Jones, better known as Gwrgant, has brought into the market a library containing a very valuable collection of Welsh Books. It is stated on good authority that the authorities of Aberystwyth College are in treaty for the purchase of the library, with the view of securing this collection.

The will dated August 13, 1875, with five codicils (dated Sept. 6, 1875; Nov. 16, 1878; Jan. 10 and Dec. 29, 1880; and Nov. 27, 1884), of General the Right Hon. Cecil Weld, Baron Forester, late of Willey Park, in the county of Salop, who died on Feb. 14 last, has been proved at the Shrewsbury District Registry by the Right Hon. Mary Anne, Lady Forester, and Viscount Newport, the executors, the value of the personal estate being under £70,000. The testator bequeaths all the furniture, plate, pictures, books, and effects at any house occupied by him, except Willey Park, any articles or articles of furniture or effects at Willey Park she may select, and any of his horses and

carriages she may wish to have, to his wife; the remainder of his furniture, plate, pictures, books, and effects at Willey Park, and of his horses and carriages, and all his live and dead farming stock, to his brother, the Hon. and Rev. Orlando Watkin Weld Forester; and legacies to god-children, executors, valet, and domestic servants. The residue of the personality he gives to his wife. All the real estate and other property of which he is tenant in tail or tenant in tail male under the will of the late George Forester, he charges with the payment of £2,000 per annum to his wife, and subject thereto, in default of male issue, he settles the same on his said brother, for life, with remainder to his son Cecil Theodore Weld Forester, for life, with remainder to his son George Cecil Beaumont Weld Forester, for life.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES, ABERYSTWYTH.—The *British Architect* says—"The re-construction scheme as proposed by Mr Seddon seems to us to fulfil all the conditions requisite for making the practically new college in every way fitted for its purpose and for securing a sufficiency of accommodation for many years to come. And seeing that the authorities are not over blessed with funds, this is certainly the most economical course to pursue, for it stands to reason, as Mr Seddon takes the opportunity to point out in his report, that the retention of those portions of the building saved from the fire, with all the foundations in situ, and the material for walling on the spot, must mean so much to the good. There are, too, included in the portions standing some of the more costly and prominent features of the old building, and these the architect will be able to incorporate in his design, and so give it a more imposing architectural exterior than the funds would permit of in an entirely new building. In fact, Mr Seddon guarantees that the total cost of his proposed re-construction shall not exceed £17,500, and adds his opinion that 'no new building of like scale and importance could be carried out in less than about double the time, nor at much less than double the cost.' We should have thought that a committee, which we have been given to understand includes several men of 'practical experience' (whatever that may mean), would have been able to get at this very plain economic truth without instituting an abortive competition, to their own loss and that of the architects who competed."

FRANKWELL.—Miss C. S. Burne of Pyebirch writes to the *Athenæum*—"With reference to Mr Gomme's remarks in your issue of the 24th July, on distinct races living side by side in our municipal towns, I think I can give a case in point. Outside Shrewsbury, beyond the Severn, and at the foot of the Welsh Bridge, there is a suburb called Frankwell, written in the oldest documents in which it is mentioned 'Frauncheville,' which has always been reputed a *free town*, beyond the jurisdiction of the burgesses of Shrewsbury, and of the merchant companies who had the monopoly of trade within the town. By Acts passed in the reigns of Henry IV. and Henry VI., no Welshman might hold lands within an English 'merchant town,' or become a burgess of it, or even buy and sell within it; and even when these Acts fell into abeyance the race enmity between English and Welsh would make the Shrewsbury trading companies very chary of admitting any Welshman to their fellowship. Hence the 'free town' without the walls became the resort of such Welshmen as embarked in trade with England. Within the memory of aged, but still living persons, it was inhabited almost wholly by a Welsh population, and Welsh, not English, was the language which visitors heard spoken as they passed through the streets. The Municipal Reform Act of 1835, by abolishing the exclusive rights of the trading companies,

was, I suppose, the cause of the amalgamation of the two races, for the Welsh character of Frankwell has now almost, if not quite disappeared. The name of 'D. Lloyd ap Roger, 1623,' on an old house, and the still remembered site of St. Cadogan's Chapel (pulled down before the civil wars), are relics of the old state of things, and the privileges of the 'free town' are not yet forgotten. Any supposed slight to Frankwell still arouses the old watchword, 'Frankwell, maintain your rights!' which in 1821, when the population was still Welsh, was used to incite resistance to a newly passed street Act, under which the Corporation proposed to cleanse the streets of the suburb as well as of the borough itself. The natives of Frankwell (then still Welshmen) asserted their right to do their own scavenging (or leave it undone), and shouting their war cry they assembled in the streets, fell upon the dustmen of the Corporation, overturned their carts, and drove them back over the bridge. You will, perhaps, think that the late date to which the distinction of races was preserved in this case makes the particulars I have related worth recording in the *Athenæum*."

THE ROYAL ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—MEETING AT CHESTER.

The annual meeting of the Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland was begun at the Chester Town Hall on Tuesday, August 10, when Earl Percy, the president, and the members of the Institute, were received by the Mayor (Mr G. A. Dickson) and Corporation in the Council Chamber. The chair was taken by the Duke of Westminster, as president of the meeting.—The Mayor briefly welcomed the Institute, and the Deputy Town Clerk read an address.—Mr Henry Taylor, Town Clerk of Flint, read an address from the Chester Archæological and Historic Society.—Earl Percy, on behalf of the Institute, acknowledged the welcome tendered to the members by the local scientific societies and by the Mayor and Corporation. He said the site on which they stood and the adjacent neighbourhood, presented objects of interest from an archæological point of view second to none in Great Britain.—The Duke of Westminster delivered his address as president, in the course of which he said that archæology was after all a comparative term, for though they could carry back their history for several centuries, such antiquity was comparatively modern by the side of the antiquity of Egypt, Assyria, and China, which were at the pinnacle of greatness when the Roman power was yet in the womb of time. A glance back over the history of the old city of Chester showed how important a place it was, as might be expected from its commanding position, and what stirring scenes it had witnessed during the last nineteen centuries. His Grace proceeded to speak of Roman Chester and the traces of Roman occupation. Referring to the present walls and other relics, he said they should hope to hear some authoritative opinion on the question of the walls and how far they were Roman. The city must have had some walls, but did any traces of these Roman walls remain? The Duke proceeded to deal with the history of Chester after the withdrawal of the Romans and the desolation that existed when the Danes came upon the scene; of the Saxon period; of the course of the Dee, and of the Norman period. He asked what were they to believe of Harold surviving his wounds at the battle of Hastings and spending his remaining days as an anchorite in a cell near St. John's Church? Were the forests which covered so large an extent of Cheshire in existence during the Roman and Saxon times, or were they planted by the forest-

loving William? He concluded by repeating the cordial welcome which it gave him great pleasure to offer to the members of the institute on behalf of the Council of Chester.—A vote of thanks to the duke was passed.—The afternoon was spent in visiting the various objects of interest in the city, and at night Professor E. A. Freeman, president of the Historical Section, opened his section with an interesting address.

The proceedings began on Wednesday with a series of interesting excursions into the most charming portions of Denbighshire. The weather during the night had been very inclement, but at 10.10, when a very large party left in special trains to Llangollen, the sun was shining brilliantly, and there was every indication of a fine day. The members arrived at Llangollen a few minutes after eleven, and were met by a number of carriages, by which they were speedily conveyed to Valle Crucis Abbey, which was pleasantly described by Mr E. R. Pullan and Mr G. Canning Richardson. From there they were conducted to the pillar of Eliseg, and some remarks upon its history were made by Mr A. Baker. A return was then made to Llangollen through some charming scenery, and luncheon was taken at the Hand Hotel. The party subsequently left at a quarter to two o'clock in carriages for Offa's Dyke, where a ten minutes' halt took place while it was carefully inspected and a number of interesting observations made upon it. Thence to Chirk Castle, which was reached by three o'clock. By the kind permission of Mr Myddelton Biddulph, the valuable collections of pictures, furniture, &c., were inspected. At Chirk Station the special train was found in waiting, and the members were taken on to Wrexham. As they did not reach Wrexham Church till five o'clock their visit was a brief one. Mr R. P. Pullan, of London, gave a short address on the features of the building. He said that the prevailing character of the church was Perpendicular. The only really important feature of it was the tower. Nearly all the numerous statues which stood about it survived both the Reformation and the great Rebellion, and it was in this respect almost, if not quite, unique among the church towers of this country. As to the chancel, generally believed to be later than the east end of the nave, he should rather, judging from the look of the corbels and sedilia in it, think it to be earlier, and the tracery on the chancel arch to be not the remains of the old east window but rather what is left of some old screen work. A subsequent speaker, however, pointed out that in the chancel walls were included the buttresses of the old east end, which latter must therefore have been earlier than the chancel.—Mr Alfred N. Palmer of Wrexham, who is now preparing a complete history of the church, then read the following paper:—

NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF WREXHAM.

The first specific mention of a Parish Church of Wrexham occurs at the beginning of the 13th century. This church stood, it is nearly certain, on the present site, but there are no remains of it traceable in the church of to-day. The tower of this structure is recorded to have been blown down in 1330 or 1331, and the whole church appears to have been then re-built. Thus arose what we may call, "the fourteenth century church." The arches and piers of this church remain, it is possible, in the building of to-day, and a bit of the east end of the south aisle and the piscina there are certainly relics of that church. The fourteenth century church must therefore have had a nave and side aisles equal in width to those of the existing building. There is a tradition that the tower of that church was burnt down in the year 1463, but, according to another account, it was the church itself that was burnt

down about that time. It is certain, at any rate, that during the latter half of the 15th century the building was almost re-constructed. The church that was now built—the 15th century church—arose on the foundations of the preceding building, and included some of the masonry of its walls. The piers and arches of the nave arcade of the earlier church were also, I believe, included, though the bases and columns of the piers may have been reworked. There was no structural chancel, the ritual choir being formed by screening off the east of the nave. As out of the great east window of this choir the chancel arch of the existing church was ultimately formed, we may still see the moulded jambs and arch of that window, as well as portions of its tracery. There was no clerestory to the nave, and the wall-posts of the roof, which had probably a high pitch, rested on the range of now functionless corbels, which have unfortunately recently been restored. As we read in an old englyn of the “*clochdy pren*,” it is probable that a wooden belfry, intended to be but temporary, was erected on the substructure of the tower of the earlier building destroyed by fire. At the beginning of the 16th century so many additions were made to the church just described, as almost to amount to a reconstruction of it. The chancel was now built, and a clerestory added to the nave, as well as the present open roof of low pitch. The aisles were perhaps roofed anew. And the foundations were laid of a tower that was to be the finest in North Wales. It has already been stated that when the present chancel was built the old east window was utilized as an entrance into it: the curious appearance of the chancel arch is thus explained. As the surface of the ground dipped rapidly east of the old ritual choir, and the new chancel was a step higher than the nave, there was space enough for a crypt or vaulted room beneath the altar. Such a crypt was therefore provided—the present vestry—only accessible at first by a narrow winding staircase in the thickness of the north wall of the chancel. There were chapels, as in the fourteenth century church, at the east end of the two nave aisles. We find references in ancient deeds and other documents to St. Catherine’s Chapel and to the “Altar of the Blessed Virgin.” There is an old englyn which assigns the erection of the present tower to the year 1508. The tower was probably begun at that time, but I have seen a will, made in 1520, from which it appears that at the date last-named it was not yet finished. When completed there were 29 niches on its faces and angles, all of which were doubtless filled with statues. Most of these statues still stand, though there are few that are not either too much decayed, or too far removed from the point of vision, to be now identified. It is still possible, however, to recognise the figures of Saints Lawrence, Giles, Barbara, James of Compostella, John the Baptist, Peter, Andrew, and Catherine. Saint Giles (apparently identified with the Welsh Saint Silin), of whom there are no fewer than three statues on the tower, has been the patron saint of Wrexham since at least the end of the 15th century; but one of the earlier churches was, it is almost certain, dedicated to St. Mary—a circumstance which explains the presence of the figures of “Mother and Child” above the porch. The enlargements and improvements which ended, at the beginning of the sixteenth century, in giving to the building something of the appearance which it now presents, were intended, there is good reason to believe, to be preliminary to a projected collegiation of the church, arrangements for which, though far advanced, were never completed. There is a house in the churchyard which is still called “The College.” On the inner wall of the south aisle are incised two stepped and gabled crosses. They differ from the usual form of “Consecration-crosses,” and I should be glad to hear from

some of the archæologists present an opinion as to their meaning. There is one other point to which I should like to call attention. If we look at the church we shall find that the aisles are dissimilar. There are six side windows in the south aisle corresponding to the six bays of the nave, while in the north aisle there are only five side windows, which do not therefore centre with the arches of the nave arcade. There is doubtless to be found in this dissimilarity an evidence of some difference of date in the case of the two aisles, but I have never been able to give an explanation coherent and wholly satisfactory of it, and shall be glad of any suggestions that will tend to clear up the difficulty. The font dates from the end of the 15th or beginning of the 16th century. Of the same date probably are the wall-paintings of the Last Judgment above the chancel arch, and of the Crucifixion in the porch. To explain the date 1822 above the south door of the church, I may say that the south aisle was in that year extended westward, so as to correspond in length with that of the north aisle and porch together. The oldest piece of church plate we have, a pre-Reformation paten and chalice, is ascribed by Mr Wilfred Cripps to the 15th century, and is described by him as a “specimen of great rarity.” The brass eagle can be exactly dated, it was given to the high altar in the year 1524, and cost £6. We may infer from entries in the churchwardens’ accounts that the beautiful wrought iron chancel screen, which a Vestry meeting a few years ago resolved to sell, was set up in the year 1718 or soon after, and that the wrought iron churchyard gates were erected about the same time, between the years 1718 and 1724 in fact. There is a fine set of ten bells, by Rudhall, of Gloucester, set up in 1726, and an older saint’s bell. The registers begin in 1618, and are continued until 1644; are resumed in 1662, and thenceforth continue, with two or three brief interruptions, until our own times. The churchwardens’ accounts begin in 1662, and the earlier entries in them are very interesting. The monuments in the church include an important fourteenth century effigy of an armoured Welsh knight—Cynwrig ap Howel (now in the porch); an effigy in the chancel of Bishop Bellot of Chester, who died in 1596, and is here represented, as described by Mr Bloxam, wearing his academical habits over his Post-Reformation vestments; a curious monument at the end of the south aisle to Sir Richard Lloyd, who died in 1676; a monument now in the north aisle, by Roubiliac, to Miss Mary Myddelton, daughter of Sir Richard Myddelton of Chirk; and medallions, also by Roubiliac, of Rev Thomas Myddelton and his wife. The brass to Mr Humphrey Lloyd, who died in 1673, is by Sylvanus Crue, the well-known engraver. The Viscount Primerose, whom another brass commemorates, was a member of the same family to which the present Lord Rosebery belongs. The only monument in the churchyard that I need mention is that of Elihu Yale, the founder of Yale College; the inscription on it is curious.—The church plate and the oldest parish registers and churchwardens’ accounts were exhibited. Mr E. M. Jones showed also several engravings and views of Wrexham church. Amongst the visitors present were Sir James Picton, Earl Percy, Mr Justice Penley, Mr C. Waldron, Mr E. Peacock, Mr F. J. Earwaker, Mr Potts, Horsley Hall, Mr Beresford-Hope, M.P., Mr Ferguson, F.S.A., Dr Jex-Blake, Professor Clarke, the Rev Canon Jackson, and a large number of members who were met in the church by the Rev G. Birch, Mr E. Palmer, Mr E. M. Jones, Mr John Jones, Mr J. Oswell Bury, Mr William Overton, and others.—Mr Palmer is the author of two works on antiquarian subjects, viz:—1st, “The town, fields, and folk of Wrexham in the time of James the First.” 2nd,

"A history of ancient tenures of land in the Marches of North Wales." A third work is in preparation, being the History of the Parish Church of Wrexham. The *Athenæum* has spoken very highly of his History of Tenures.—The return journey was made to Chester at half-past five o'clock. In the evening the Bishop of Chester (Dr Stubbs) opened the antiquarian section in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall. The Duke of Westminster presided over the section and Dr Stubbs read an address. He strongly urged the importance of manorial antiquities and the taking of measures for the preservation of court rolls and the collection of manorial customs in permanent record, and the formation of manorial maps. These would be useful for their own archaeological purposes, and would give them some valuable historical data for local and general political history. No one who had not, as he had done in past years, spent days and weeks over these records, could realise the immense amount of local, historical, and genealogical material which lay hid in the presses that contained the court rolls.—The Rev. G. F. Browne delivered an address "On Early Sculptured Stones of Cheshire," dealing very ably with the stones found in various parts of Cheshire. Several diagrams were shown of the sculptured stones.

A meeting of the Historical Section of the Institute was held at nine o'clock in the Assembly Room.—Mr H. Taylor, town clerk of Flint, one of the secretaries, read an interesting paper on "Grants of Welsh Land to Englishmen by Edward I." He gave a sketch of the war waged by the young warrior king against the valiant Prince Llewelyn and his brave people, from July, 1277, until the Prince was slain on the banks of the Wye, and his brother David was subsequently taken prisoner and conveyed to Rhuddlan, from whence he was sent to Shrewsbury, and there tried and put to death, thus closing the sovereignty of the Ancient British Empire, which, according to Cambrian records, is said to have existed for 2,418 years. He then referred to Edward's determination to have a complete chain of fortresses along the coast of North Wales from Chester to Harlech, and remarked that, on the completion of this chain the king did his utmost to encourage the emigration of his English subjects to his new domains. Mr Taylor added that he had recently found, at the Public Record Office, on the Patent Rolls 7 Edward I., an entry of an order by which "Our beloved and faithful Roger de Mortimer" was given "full and special power of enfeofing in Our turn the men of our lands belonging to the castle and domains of Gannoke, of Rothlan, and of Flint, and of demising parcels as we have enjoined the same Roger viva voce, and granting them to fee-farm by carucates or certain other and as will appear to be more expedient to our use," and the sheriffs of Gloucester, Hereford, and Worcester were commanded to proclaim that all those within their bailiwicks, who wished to be enfeofed or to fee-farm the said lands should go before the said Roger at Hereford, in the octave of St. Hilary, the sheriffs of Shrewsbury and Stafford before the said Roger at Shrewsbury, within 15 days from the day of St. Hilary, and the sheriffs of Warwick, Nottingham, Derby, Lancaster, and Gunsln de Badlesmere, justice of Chester, before the same Roger de Mortimer, at Rhuddlan, on Sunday, in mid-Lent, "to receive such lands as it should seem expedient." No doubt a very considerable number of Englishmen swarmed to this new field of emigration, and English towns rapidly sprang up near to the castles, the inhabitants of which were protected by the English Garrisons. It was the duty of the Government to increase the miserably small grants to the Rolls Office, to the Historical Manuscript Commissioners, and others, for the elucidation of the history of our country. The enormous sum of

money spent upon education, so far as English history was concerned, was being in a degree wasted by the non-publication of information lying dormant in Fetter-lane, at the British Museum, and in the hundreds of English mansions, the libraries and muniments of which were open to the Commissioners. As an illustration Mr Taylor mentioned that if the contents of Mostyn Hall were brought to light by a professionalist, they would throw a flood of new light not only upon Welsh Bardic and Tudor times, but upon the civil war of the seventeenth century.—Sir James Picton read a paper on "Chester and Liverpool in their ancient commercial relations."

The annual meeting of the Institute was held on Thursday, Earl Percy presiding. Norwich was named, but not decided upon, as the place of meeting in 1888, Salisbury having already been selected for next year's meeting. The proceedings of the architectural section were afterwards opened by the President, the Right Hon. A. J. Beresford-Hope, M.P., the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, Countess Grosvenor, Earl Percy, and the Bishop of Chester being among those present. Mr Beresford-Hope, in his address, spoke at length on the difficulties and possibilities of reconciling archaeology with modern laws of health. Having dealt with church restoration, he said, in conclusion, that the architecture of the past, of history, of old domestic life, of superstitions, and of general picturesqueness, and on the other hand the architecture of practical life, of health, and of fashion, were so very different that it could only be by architecture being studied in many lights by many different sections of the world that anything like a reconciliation that was at all durable could be reached.—A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Beresford-Hope, on the motion of the Duke of Westminster.—The members then proceeded to an inspection of St. John's Church and the Cathedral. In the evening a conversation was given by the Mayor in the Town Hall.

Friday was devoted by the members of the Institute to an excursion to various points of interest in Cheshire. A large party left the general station at ten o'clock, in a special train for Malpas, which was reached in half an hour. Proceeding to the village on foot, the party inspected the interesting old church, the building being described by the Hon. and Rev. W. Trevor Kenyon. Malpas was left at noon, the party being conveyed in a special train to Nantwich, where luncheon was provided in the Corn Exchange. The old church was inspected, under the guidance of the rector, the Rev. F. G. Blackburne; afterwards the visitors were conveyed in carriages to Acton, where the church was inspected; thence to Bunbury, the church being visited under the direction of the Rev. W. Lowe, and from there to Beeston Castle, under the guidance of Precentor Venables. The party returned to Chester in a special train at 6.30. At the evening session, Mr G. W. Shrubsole (in the architectural section) read a paper on "The Age of the City Walls of Chester." Quoting the statement of Pennant, written a century ago, that "The form of the city evinces its Roman origin, but that no part of the old walls exist," he said the latter part of this passage had evoked considerable difference of opinion. Fifty years ago, for the first time in our local history, the claim was advanced that a large part of the north wall on the east side of the north gate was Roman work in situ, and this assertion was countenanced at the Archaeological Conference of 1857. The opinion he had formed was a contrary one. The point in question was as to whether there had been greater facilities for judging during the past quarter of a century, owing to the repairs which had been executed. The form of construction of the Roman period, with its use of stone, tiles, and mortar, was one which stood prominently forward for recognition;

and he maintained that, however pardonable might be the claim for the Roman age of any part of the city, it was not borne out by anything to be seen in its present constitution. The older writers—Camden, Pennant, Ormerod, Lyson, and Haushall—made no such claim for the walls. Their opinion might be summarised in the words of Ormerod—"The walls of Chester follow the outline of the Roman work, and probably stand on the Roman foundation." During the last 21 years he had seen hundreds of yards laid open to repair, but in no instance had he seen the faintest approach to Roman work in situ. The foundation in every instance has been loose stones, both large and small, laid very irregularly, and without mortar. All this was very different from the Roman concrete foundations with which we were familiar in Chester.

On Saturday morning the members left Chester early, and had a delightful drive of ten miles to Delamere Forest, where they viewed the Roman Road to Eddisbury Hill and the junction of the Roman roads at Nettleford. The antiquarian and architectural sections of the Institute met at the Town Hall, Chester, on Saturday evening; the Bishop of Chester presiding over the former, and Mr R. P. Pullan, F.S.A., vice-president, over the other. Mr T. Rigby read a paper "On Old Customs and Practices of Cheshire Farming."—After a few words from the Bishop of Carlisle commendatory of the paper, a vote of thanks to Mr Rigby was passed.—In the architectural section Mr I. Matthew Jones read an interesting paper "On a Roman Hypocaust lately found in Chester."

On Sunday, the members of the Institute, together with the Mayor, Sheriff, Aldermen, and Corporate officials, attended morning service in the Cathedral. The Bishop of Chester preached. The Rev. G. F. Browne, B.D., one of the vice-presidents of the antiquarian section of the Institute, was the preacher in the evening, the service being again held in the nave.

On Monday, the members of the Institute visited Hawarden, and inspected the old castle and parish church. They afterwards left for Mold, visited the parish church and the Bailey Hill, and then left for Plas Teg and Caergwile Castle. Thence the visitors proceeded to Gresford, where the church was inspected under the guidance of Mr R. P. Pullan and Mr Trevor Parkins, secretary of the Wrexham Deanery Association. In the Antiquarian Section at night, under the presidency of Earl Percy, Mr H. S. Skipton read an interesting paper on "Sport in Cheshire, with notices of the Grosvenor family." Mr R. Pullan presided at the meeting of the Architectural Section, at which a paper was read by Sir Llewelyn Turner on "Carnarvon Castle," this concluding the meeting of 1886.

On Tuesday, a large number of the members of the Institute visited Flint, Conway, and Carnarvon Castles, and other places of interest.

ORIGIN OF THE WORD "BAILEY."

The controversy as to the origin of the word "Bailey" is of local interest. Mr W. Mattieu Williams writes to the *Athenæum* of Aug. 14:—"Mr Gomme's letter (July 24) on the Boley Hill at Rochester reminds me of a similar hill, similarly attributed to the Danes, at Mold in Flintshire, which bears the name of Bailey Hill. I am no archaeologist, and therefore offer no theory concerning the name and traditions, excepting that the similarity is suggestive. I have already shown, in a paper read before the Geological Section of the British Association, 1865, that Bailey Hill is not an artificial structure, but the moraine of an ancient glacier, or rather one of a series of moraines abounding in the neighbourhood.—Mr A. Hall writes:—Some further light may accrue to this subject by a suggested comparison with

the Bail or Bayle at Folkstone, a name which readily connects itself with ballium, a term of military architecture which again represents some form of court, at first always in the open air—see Old Bailey, London; New Bailey, Manchester. The popular idea at Folkestone is that their "bail" arises from the local pond at that site, fed by land-springs from a source mystified by ancient traditions of water running up hill; horses still water there, and it is easily reached from the Sandgate-road, but it overhangs the lower town from a lofty elevation on the west cliff, adjoining the parish church and old priory. It was probably an old military enclosure, and the water supply would be useful for a garrison. I therefore connect bail with the Latin vallum, Irish bally, the French form baille, for a palisade, conveying the same idea. In connection with this military term bail, ballium, there is a story current at Dover that when the astute William of Normandy imposed a sacramental contract on the ill-fated Harold, the latter was to deliver up the "well" of Dover Castle. The juxtaposition of Bail-pond and Dover Castle well is suggestive; but surely the latter is delusive, and suggests a misreading of "well" for ballium. If we write the latter in a contracted form as bail, where the crossed "ll" does duty for the terminal "-ium," it would be an easy mistake to fall into. Who holds the original document or earliest MSS. on which the story is founded?

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

MR. PHILLIMORE ON THE WELSH TRIADS.

Continued, (July 21, 1886).

I now come to a version of the the Triads which presents great peculiarities. It is contained in a MS. once belonging to the old Cymmrodorion Society and now forms No. 15,047 of the additional MSS. of the British Museum. It is in the autograph of Howel ab Sir Mathew, a Glamorganshire poet and antiquary, who lived in the middle of the 16th century, and who is said to have copied it from a MS. of the end of the preceding century. This version of the Triads contains here and there aphoristic Triads mixed up with the historical ones, but in so far as it consists of the latter class of Triads, it has been made up from the two old versions in the most peculiar eclectic fashion. The compiler has first gone through the Triads of Arthur and made a selection from them, preserving in spite of omissions the exact order of his originals. To this selection follows the Gelli Lyfdy version of the Triads of the Steeds, so that up to this point the compiler appears to have been using the original, from which was taken John Jones's transcript. But from this point onward the Red Book version appears to have been the only one used by the compiler. He first proceeds with a selection of Triads from the portion of this version comprised between the Triads numbered 33 and 48, transcribing them in the same order as that in which they occur in his original. Then after giving a few miscellaneous Triads of little importance about Welsh poets, not to be found in the older versions, he proceeds to give the collection of Aphoristic Triads which immediately follows the Historical ones in the Red Book. He then returns to the very beginning of the Red Book Historical Series, and proceeds to make a selection from it on the same principle as his last selection up to the point where the latter commenced. His reason for omitting so many of the Red Book Historical Triads as he does in the process of his two selections was of course to a great extent that he had already transcribed the same Triads or corresponding ones from the Triads of Arthur. His object was a simple one, viz., to make up one version by selection from three older ones, and some other unim-

portant sources, and what is really remarkable about it is the curious mixture of system and want of system indicated by the method in which he made his compilation.

Another version of the Triads, the coincidences of which with the last mentioned one are so remarkable as to make it certain that they both descend from one original compilation made in the manner just described, though at the same time the differences between the two versions are essential enough to preclude the possibility of either version as it now stands having been copied from the other, occurs in No. 4,181 of the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum. It there forms one of a series of very inaccurate transcripts made by Hugh Thomas, a well-known Breconshire herald and antiquarian, shortly before his death in 1713, from various sources, in illustration of early Welsh history. The preface of this particular transcript states that the Triads contained in it were originally collected from a variety of sources, and put together without much regard to order by a Welsh priest named Thomas Ieuan, who is there stated to have lived about 1500, to have been a great traveller, and to have studied in Rome. I have seen his name mentioned elsewhere, I think, as holding some office in Rome at the period in question. It also informs us that the original MS. of these Triads was "then or late" in the possession of Sir Rd. Wynne of Gwydir, who died in 1649, and is buried at Wimbledon. That there was once a collection of Welsh MSS. at Gwydir we know from other sources, some of them have been traced to the Hengwrt collection, but I do not think this one is there. The preface also states that the order of Thomas ab Ieuan's original collection has been altered in the transcript in order to make the arrangement of Triads more systematic, an unfortunate circumstance which largely diminishes their critical value as an independent version. It is probably in consequence of this shifting process that the second selection from the Red Book Triads is not in the same order as in Howel ab Sir Mathew's version, and that the Triads of the Steeds and the Red Book Aphoristic Triads here occur at the end, not in the middle, of the whole series.

In one important feature this version differs from the one last dealt with, that it contains the Triads of the 24 Knights of Arthur, not to be found in any older version. This group of Triads is largely compiled from the Arthurian Romances, not in their native Welsh, but in their later European and strictly *Romantic* form, and has therefore no claim to be considered in connection with the early Welsh Historical Triads, which, in so far as they refer to these legends at all, appear to allude to their original Welsh dress.

Indeed these Romantic Triads, to judge from the numerous MSS. in which they appear as a separate work, seem to have been considered as quite distinct from the older Historical Triads up till comparatively recent times. They occur by themselves in the oldest MS. in which I know them to occur at all, one written by John Jones of Gelli Lyddy in about 1611, but there is no denying that if they really formed part of the original collection of "Thos. ab Ieuan, offeiriad," both their composition and their first amalgamation with the Historical Triads goes back to the 15th century.

Another version of the Historical Triads is that contained in the *Cwdda Cyfarwydd*, preserved at Peniarth, (Hengwrt MS. No. 49) a magnificent collection of Welsh poetry and prose, written in 1445 by Gwilym Tew. A copy of these Triads by Richard Morris is found in Lord Maclesfield's collection. I cannot say that I have traced the exact process by which this version was formed from the older ones, but with the exception of the excrescence at its commencement, of which I am about to speak, it only

contains one Triad of any importance that is not to be found in the older versions. This excrescence is not the Triads of the 24 Knights, which do not occur here, but an old topographical tract, originally perfectly distinct from the Triads, but recast in this version as far as possible into Triadic form. This tract is first found in the same MS. as that in which the oldest copy of the Red Book Triads was contained, Hengwrt MS. 202, and I believe was first published in "Y Cymmrodor," Vol. 7. There is another old copy of it in the Hengwrt collection. It contains a brief statement of the old names and the dimensions of Britain, and of the number of Archbishoprics, royal or princely capitals, ports, harbours, islands, and peninsulas that it contained. There is a greatly expanded version of it in the Red Book of Hergest, and it is this or some intermediate form of the tract that has been used for the manufacture of the first few Triads of Gwilym Tew's version. I think it highly probable that the compiler of this version of the Triads was Gwilym Tew himself.

Another version of the Triads very well known to Welsh readers, from its forming the first of the three published in the *Myv. Arch.*, is one compiled from older MSS. by the celebrated collector and antiquary, Robert Vaughan of Hengwrt, who died in 1666. This purports to be taken from no less than five older MSS., each of which contained different numbers of Triads, and four of which were on vellum. In each of these, the preface states, the Triads occurred in the same order as that in which they are given in the version that follows, but if the *Llyfr Cwdda*, one of the MSS. in question, is the same as the "*Cwdda Cyfarwydd*," which it certainly seems to be, the statement is quite inaccurate as far as that MS. is concerned. The salient peculiarity of Robert Vaughan's version is that it contains both the excrescences already mentioned, viz., the description of Britain and the Triads of the 24 Knights. The way in which this version has been made up is tolerably clear. It begins with the description of Britain cast into Triadic form from Gwilym Tew's version; it then proceeds to copy the Triads of Arthur from beginning to end, and then gives sundry Triads not to be found in that version from the "*Cwdda Cyfarwydd*." It also intercalates the Triads of the twenty-four knights, and gives the Triads of the Steeds at the end from the *Gelli Lyddy* version. It seems therefore that the whole version of the Triads transcribed by John Jones, and described above, has been largely used as the basis of the compilation under discussion, and is indeed identical with "The Book of John Jones," one of the paper books enumerated in the compiler's preface. The remaining version of which I have to speak stands entirely by itself in containing not only a large number of Triads not known in any other version, but considerable additions to many of the Triads which in a simpler form exist elsewhere. This version is the third of the three printed in the *Myv. Archæology*. It has long been known to the world, and has received an attention wholly disproportionate to its real value, while the other versions of the Triads have in consequence not met with the attention they deserve. The greater part of the new matter found in this version is either mere literary embellishment or taken from still existing and known sources of Welsh history and legend. There are, however, to be found in it some remarkable particulars not to be found at all, or not so fully set forth, in our earlier authorities. Such are the legends of the Colonization of Britain by Hu Gadarn, the Deluge-Legend of the Bursting of Llyn Llion, the oppression of March Malaen, or the plague which followed the slaughter of the Irish in Anglesey in the fifth century. Some of these certainly embody genuine traditions, and probably further research among Welsh MSS. will enable us better to ascertain the sources whence these

statements are derived. As to the document itself, a very slight comparison of the florid diffuseness which the Triads present in this version with the severe simplicity which characterizes them in the others suffices to shew us that it was composed at a far later period. It contains the excrecences of all the versions older than itself, and both Gwilym Tew and Robert Vaughan's versions must have been used in its compilation. Its literary history is as follows:—It purports to have been copied by Iolo Morganwg (nor has any valid reason been adduced why we should doubt this statement) from a MS. belonging to the Rev. Mr Richards of Llanegwad, then on loan to Mr Walters, the author of the excellent English-Welsh Dictionary. That there was a collection of Welsh MSS. belonging to the Richards family at Llanegwad we know from other sources; but there is nothing to shew who was the writer of the MS. whence Iolo transcribed. It appears from the foot-note, dated 1601, to these Triads, that the original collection was made by Thomas Jones of Tregaron (better known in Welsh story as Twm Shon Catti), who says he had collected the Triads from the Book of Caradog of Llangarfan, and the book of Ieuan Brechfa, and that they were all that he could recover out of the 300.

The subject matter of the Welsh Historical Triads cannot in the present state of Welsh knowledge and scholarship be said to lend itself to any very interesting treatment. The working out of the literary history of the various versions in which these Triads are found, and the comparison of these versions the one with the other, promise indeed to be of considerable interest, but, as I have already said, the existing materials for such a work are not yet fully available, and I therefore do not propose to pursue this branch of the subject further. In themselves these Triads chiefly consist of meagre notices of personages and occurrences, sometimes historical, sometimes legendary, sometimes mythological, but all classified according to a purely fanciful system, valueless for critical purposes, by which the personages or events in question are grouped in threes according to some salient characteristics by which each was imagined to be distinguished. It is only occasionally and exceptionally that the writer explains or illustrates one of these meagre notices by anything in the shape of a detailed narrative of the occurrences to which it refers. And mere notes or allusions can only be made of much value or interest by comparing them with collateral notices of the same events in other documents. Such of the other documents available for this purpose as belong to prose literature have already been mentioned. Of the body of Welsh poetry also available for the same purpose which has been already mentioned, by far the most valuable portion is that which, whenever composed, in its present form relates to the events of the 5th, 6th, and 7th centuries, and is preserved in MSS. ranging from the 12th to the 14th centuries, but much of which is both in style and phraseology of far older date. The greater part of it is published, and is to be found in the Black Book of Carmarthen, the Book of Aneurin, the Book of Taliessin, and the Red Book of Hergest. I propose to consider the allusions of the Triads (1) To Welsh History; (2) To Welsh Legend and Mythology, in the light of what we are enabled to learn of each event or fact alluded to, from other sources. The first fixed point in the history of the Welsh as a distinct nation, the emigration of Cunedda Wledig from the banks of the Forth under pressure of the invasions of the Picts and Scots in about 400 A.D., and the conquest of a great part of Wales by him and his descendants, of which facts we have an early historical record in the short chronicle annexed to Nennius, receives but slight notice in the Historical Triads. One Triad, however, mentions the

final battle in which Cadwallon Law Hir, father of the better known Maelgwn Gwynedd, who was carried off by the great plague, (called *y fâd* (or *y fall*) *felen* in Welsh), in the year 547, defeated the Scots or Irish in Anglesey. The Triad where the allusion is contained is that of the *Tri hualogyon deulu*, or "three fettered retinues" of the Isle of Britain (*the teulu* being explained in another Triad to have consisted of 2,100 men), one of which is said to have been that of Cadwallon at the battle in question. The reason given for this singular appellation is that they bound themselves one to the other by the feet with their horses' fetters (in Welsh, "*dodasant hualau eu meirch ar draed pob un o naddunt*") in their battle with Serigi or Serigei, the Irishman, at Cerrig y Gwyddyl in Anglesey. I do not know whether there is any authenticated instance of a strictly historical character of this singular but uncommonly effectual method of making soldiers hold their ground against the violent onset of an enemy, which in the same triad is stated to have been adopted in two other battles, which I shall have occasion to mention in their proper places. At first sight, indeed, one might be led to suppose that the story was simply invented to account for the epithet *hualogyon*, of which the original meaning had been forgotten, but that this is not the case is shown by the fact that the tradition of this method of warfare existed on Irish as well as on Welsh ground; for it is said to have been adopted by both sides at the unquestionably historical battle of *Magh Rath* (Moirra), fought in the year 637 between the Ulstermen and the Scots of the Argyllshire *Dabiriada* against the King of Ireland, in the somewhat romantic tale in which that battle is described, from which I take the following amusing passage:—"There escaped not one of the men from beyond sea except Dubh-diadh, the Druid, who fled panic-stricken from the battle, and who made no delay till he reached Scotland, with a dead hero tied to one of his feet, for Congal (the King of Ulster) had tied every two of his people together in the battle with a fetter, that the one might not flee from the other, and the races of Conall and Eoghan (by which is meant the forces of the King of Ireland) did the same, and thus they fought the battle." Of Cadwallon Law Hir little else is known, the later Welsh pedigrees have changed his name into Caswallon in order to assimilate it to that of Caswallon ab Beli (the Latin Cassivelaunus), but in the oldest Welsh genealogies and Triads he is always rightly called Cadwallon. With regard to the locality of this battle, it is called in later versions of the Triads, *Capel y Gwyddel* (the Irishman's Chapel), which is the name of a now extinct chapel in Holyhead, and it has usually been assumed that Cerrig y Gwyddyl is the same place; but there is a place still bearing the name of Cerrig y Gwyddyl not far from Cerrig Ceinwen in Anglesey, where the battle may possibly have been fought, and close by is a mound called Cadfarth, a name which seems certainly to commemorate a battle, and which might in old Welsh mean the slaughter of battle, Professor Rhys having discovered that *marth* is the Welsh equivalent of the Latin *mors mortis* "death," though in modern Welsh *marth* only means "shame," and in Cornish and Breton "wonder." The Professor believes the name of Cadwallon's opponent Serigi to be the genitive of the well known Norse name *Sitric*, torn from its Latin context: if this is the case, then an episode of one of the much later Norse invasions of Anglesey has been mixed up with the earlier war between the Welsh and Irish in that island. It is by no means impossible that such a confusion may have been made by the local tradition of a later age, but even if we admit this, it does not follow that the original tradition was not that of a battle between the Welsh and Irish. Traditions of this war certainly existed

in the island in the last century, and Lewis Morris gives a remarkable one of a battle in another part of the island near Bodafon, in which an Irish chief named Ligach is related to have been slain, and buried in a standing posture in a tumulus called after his name, Bedd Ligach. This tradition is especially valuable in that we have abundant evidence in Irish literature that it was customary with the early Irish to bury their fallen chiefs standing, in their armour, with their faces towards their enemies' land. In this position the deceased hero was supposed to fight on the side of his compatriots and give them victory in their encounters. The enemy, however, frequently broke the charm by disinterring the corpse, and re-burying it with its face towards the ground. I may add that the same idea is shown to have existed among the Welsh by the story of Bran Vendigaidd, whose head was buried by his orders in the Tower Hill, with his face towards France to ward off invasion from that country, which charm is said in the Triads to have been broken by King Arthur, who disinterred the head, being unwilling (so goes the tale) that the island should be held by any might but that of his own strong hand. Another tradition of the above-mentioned war, of which it would be interesting to know the ultimate source, is preserved in the modernest, that is, Twm Shon Catti's version, of the Historical Triads, where the first of the three terrible plagues (*tri haint echrws*) of Britain is said to have been "that caused by the carcasses of the Gwyddyl, who were slain at Manuba after they had oppressed the land of Gwynedd for eighty-nine years." These eighty-nine years are probably calculated from one of the historic invasions of Britain by the Picts and Scots, between 360 and 409, A.D., to the supposed year of the final overthrow of the latter race in Anglesey, but the name *Manuba* must be corrupt. Can it be intended for some such name as *Man Hwfa* or *Maen Hwfa*?

(To be continued.)

AUGUST 25, 1886.

NOTES.

TRACES OF WELSH NAMES OF PLACES IN EAST ANGLIA.—In the border counties of the Principality, where the Welsh language has ceased to be the vernacular for a century or more, we meet with names of places which were once purely Welsh, possessing definite significations, but have now succumbed to the changes necessarily arising from transitions from one language to another, until both derivation and meaning have totally disappeared. The English ear catches the unaccustomed sound, and the tongue finds it difficult to pronounce certain combinations of letters which enter into the composition of the names; the words, therefore, are reduced to phonetic laws and changes. In course of time portions of the letters are eliminated, whilst others are interchanged for those of cognate sounds, so that the name, through bad orthography and wrong pronunciation, retains only, and that in some instances, a few of the original consonants or vowels, like words and figures effaced on old coins of constant currency, until it is difficult to decipher the reign and age to which the coins belong. The great tendency through the lapse of decades, or centuries, is to contraction and not to augmentation; as Horne Tooke puts it, "Letters, like soldiers, being very apt to desert and drop off in a long march." In centuries to come, the student of history, when all other monuments are

gone, will be guided by these broken and imperfect Celtic names in tracing the ethnology of these parts. In fact, it is only the process we see now in gradual and active operation which took place many centuries since throughout the whole of Britain, so that every county in England presents traces of a similar transition having occurred long ago. The fact that Welsh names are met with in these counties indicates that in the prehistoric period the language of the Cymry was the vernacular of the nation before the country was invaded by Roman, Saxon, Dane, or Norman. After every other monument has been destroyed, a nation may thus be traced in the few scattered names it has left behind. The Eastern counties, being the most remote from the Welsh borders, might be expected to exhibit fewer traces of ancient British ethnology than the intervening counties of England, which were the last for the language to retire from; yet it is interesting to note the many instances found even in them of pure Welsh names. In deciphering these, it is well to remember that Welsh names were not arbitrarily given, but invariably derived their signification from the locality, either from its topography, or from some noted circumstance or celebrity connected with it, the former, however, much more frequently than the latter.

CAMBRIDGE derives its name from the River Cam. *Cam* is a common Welsh word meaning crooked, bent, meandering—*yr avon gam*, the "meandering river," which is an appropriate description of the tortuous river flowing through the University town and Fen country. Eleven miles from Cambridge, near Haddenham, is a farm called MINGI. Change the *n* into *l*, which become convertible linguals in course of time, and we have *milgi*, the regular Welsh word for greyhound; hence the "Greyhound Farm," in honour probably of some "Gelert" of more ancient date than he of Snowdon fame. In the same neighbourhood is CRAGNE. *Crag*, or *craig*, means "stony" or "rocky," and *le* means "place." Cragle would therefore (substituting *l* for *n*) mean a stony place, indicating a stony spot which is so unusual in that stoneless fen soil. MANEA, near Ely, appears to be from *man*, "place or district," as in *Manceinion*, the Welsh name for Manchester, to which is added the Anglo-Saxon affix *ea*, "island," indicating that at one time, when the surrounding country was submerged, this spot was an island. Exactly the same word may be traced in *Manaw*, one of the Welsh names for the county and island of Anglesey. Similar island spots were Stonea, Whittlesea, Ramsey, Swavesey, Coveney, and the Isle of Ely, when the whole fens were an inlet or an inland extension of the Wash, of more than 1,000 square miles in extent. It is disputed, I believe, whether ELY or the Isle of Ely, a district of ten or twelve miles in either direction, is derived from "eels," or *hellyg*, Welsh for "willows." Some maintain that it was so called because the district abounded in eels. I am not aware that there is any authentic account that it did so abound, but that the whole district abounds in willows, even to this day, is very certain. WISKIN, in the Fen, is from *wisg* and *ynys*, "water island." BRAINTREE, Essex, appears to be derived from *bryn*, a hillock or ridge, and *tre*, a town. *Bryn-tre*, "town on the hill." Correspondingly, the town is situated with an ascent leading to it on every side, giving it this appearance to the approaching traveller. Brentwood,

in Essex, Brandon, Brandiston, and Brainford in Suffolk, would be similarly derived from *bryn*; whilst Manningtree and Terling, in Essex, retain the *tre*. Through the valley on one side of Braintree flows the River PANT, or, in Welsh, *avon-y-pant*, meaning low place or valley. At Witham, six miles off, on the river bank, is a locality called GUITHAVON, from *guith* or *gwrth*, "near the river." Six miles further on is the town of MALDON, which corresponds with scores of names in Wales to-day, such as *Moel-y-don* or *Moldon*, signifying "brink or bare edge of the wave or sea." Maldon lies at the head of the Blackwater, an inlet of the German Ocean, corresponding therefore with its Welsh signification. In MARSEA Island, close by, we have *mor*, "sea," or *maur*, "large," with the Saxon affix *ea* for island—meaning sea island, as nearest to the sea, or "large island," probably the latter, as it is the largest islet in that estuary. In DUNMOW, renowned for its matrimonial fitch, nine miles west of Braintree, we have the Anglo-Celtic *dun*, from *din* or *dinas*, enclosure or city; the neighbouring parish of HENHAM would probably be derived from *hen* (long e), meaning "old," the old home; and TAKELEY from *tegle*, "fair spot or open place." In MANUDEN, or MANEWDEN, as it is spelt in some old manuscripts, we have *man*, "place," *y*, "of the," *den*, Anglo-Celtic, as in Harwarden or Arden, "woody," meaning the wooded place. DOVER is derived from *dwer*, "water," and DOVERCOURT probably from *dwer gurt*, a watery enclosure or bay, hence Dovercourt Bay. ARDLEIGH, near Colchester, would be from *ard*, "high," and *le*, "spot." These are all names suggestive of their geographical and topographical position. CROMER, the rising Norfolk watering place, has in it the *crom* of the well-known *cromlech*, "round or bend," and *maur*, "great," or *mor*, "sea," meaning the "great bend" or "sea bend." The adjective always follows the substantive in Welsh. The meaning evidently was suggested by the configuration of the land or coast line, on the corner of which Cromer is situated. So extensive indeed is this bend, and so prominently situated on the corner of it is Cromer, that it is stated to be the only place on the East Coast whence the sun is seen rising and setting in the sea. LYNN would be a corruption of *llyn*, "lake," or "pool," which the Wash from that spot would have the appearance of. *Llyn* is also traced in Linton, Cambs., Lincoln, and London. The Welsh word *wysg*, *wys*, *wy*, or *is*, "water," represented by the modern English Wye, and Usk, Ex, or Ax, has left its reminiscences in great many of the rivers throughout the kingdom. In East Anglia we trace it in the River Ouse, the estuary of the Wash, the town of Wisbeach, Washbrook, near Ipswich, and in the River Stour, which has *is* and *dwr*, each meaning "water." The Rev. Isaac Taylor states that Thaxted, in Essex, has been supposed to be a corruption of THE AX STEAD. RUSHMERE, near Ipswich, would probably be derived from *rhos*, "moorland or heath," and *maur*, "great," meaning the Great Heath, a part of which still exists as a parish common and uncultivated. YARMOUTH takes its name from the River Yar, Welsh *garw*, "rough," or *araf*, "slow." I am inclined, however, to the latter, as slowness, owing to the level country, is more characteristic of its waters than roughness. It has, however, the same derivation as Yarrow in the Northern counties.

These are some of the ancient British reminiscences I have traced in the Eastern counties. There may be others I have not met with. As we leave the East on our westward march, we meet with considerably more, and the number keeps increasing until we come to the border counties. It would be interesting if inhabitants of other parts of the country would give us the result of their observations in other localities, with whose topography they are personally acquainted.

Newtown.

J. MOSTYN.

QUERIES.

WEDDING CUSTOMS IN WALES.—HIDING THE BRIDE.—The daily papers have lately circulated an extract from one of the magazines, describing once more "the bidding" custom in Wales. A copy of a bidding letter, such as was published in *Bye-Gones* some time ago, is given, and the following description of the fetching of the bride is added:—

When the wedding is to be a "big" one, i.e., when all are invited to the wedding as well as the bidding, the bridegroom's friends all congregate at his house, and the bride's friends at hers. A number of the more intimate friends of the groom are deputed to "fetch the bride," a matter of no small difficulty. Having reached her house they are met at the door of the house by her friends, who ask the strangers their business; then a duel of dialogue in rhyme, chiefly extempore, takes place between the parties; the visitors finally, after having met with some show of opposition, force their way in. Their troubles, however, have only commenced. The bride has yet to be found. Parlour, bed-room, cupboards, oak chests, are all searched by the "fetchers," each futile quest being greeted by the laughter and gibes of the bride's friends.

One of the closest of these "hidings" which came under the writer's ken tried to the utmost the detective powers of the searchers. Every nook and cranny had been searched in vain, even the oven and chimney explored; the fetchers had tramped up and down the stairs a dozen times, when it suddenly struck one of them that there must be a closet under the stair. Quickly they descended again and searched kitchen and parlour for the usual door to the closet, but none could be found. The laughter of the bride's friends redoubled, and the chagrin of the searchers deepened in proportion. Not only was their own honour at stake, but that also of the bridegroom they represented, for well they knew that unless they found the bride the wedding would have to be put off, and they and he would become the laughing-stock of the place. Suddenly the quick eyes of one of the searchers noticed a shade of difference in the colour of the wall paper. He placed his hand upon it. It was wet! With a whoop of triumph he took out his jack-knife, ran it round the hidden door which had been pasted over an hour previously, and discovered the bride seated comfortably within, but almost choked with suppressed laughter.

It would be interesting to know whether these customs are ever observed now, and if so in what part of Wales?

W.O.

REPLIES.

RINGING A HANDBELL BEFORE A FUNERAL (Aug. 11, 1886).—BONWYN's reply, showing that this custom is still kept up at Aberystwyth, is all the more interesting, because it is apparently little known in Wales at the present time. The Rev. Elias Owen, in his "Old Stone Crosses," says the custom continued to

the days of persons now living, and evidently supposes it was now extinct. Mr Owen, quoting "Tintinnabula," says a bell used to be rung through the streets of Carnarvon to give notice of an approaching funeral, just as Bonwm heard it in the streets of Aberystwyth. In 1571 Archbishop Grindal prohibited the use of the handbell "or any other superstitious ceremonies," and it is plain that the bell was at first rung, not merely to announce the approach of the procession, but as part of the funeral ceremony.

W.O.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr John Carey, of St. Julian's Friars, Shrewsbury, died lately at the ripe age of 82. He was for several years bandmaster to the 32nd, the Shropshire Rifle Volunteers, and also the Shropshire Artillery. For the former bandmastership he received a pension. Deceased had lived in Shrewsbury for upwards of 40 years, and was much respected.

There has lately been landed from the river at Hay, Brecon, a gigantic pike, which measured just over 4ft in length, 2ft in girth, and, although an underfed fish, turned the scale at 30lbs. The age of a pike cannot be safely judged by its weight; but in the specimen under notice the fins were twisted and distorted in a remarkable manner, which makes it safe to assume that the fish was a very old one.

The death is announced at Braintree, Essex, of Canon Tarver of Chester Cathedral. The late Canon was appointed chaplain-in-ordinary to the Queen in 1858, and afterwards chaplain to the Prince of Wales. He was tutor of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, by whom he was greatly esteemed, as well as by other members of the Royal family. The funeral took place at noon on Saturday, at Stisted. At Chester a special service was held at the Cathedral at the same hour as the funeral. General Sir Dighton Probyn represented the Prince of Wales at Stisted.

The will (dated October 1, 1884), with a codicil (dated March 11, 1885) of the Right Hon. Edward Gordon, Baron Penrhyn, Lord-Lieutenant of Carnarvonshire, late of Penrhyn Castle, Bangor, and of Mortimer House, Halkyn-street, London, who died on March 31st last, was proved on August 3, by George Sholto Gordon Douglas-Pennant, Lord Penrhyn, the son, Lord William Frederick Ernest Seymour, Philip Pleydell Bouverie, and Abraham John Roberts, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £761,000. The testator bequeaths £5,000 and certain furniture, pictures, drawings, and effects, and his second service of plate, to his wife; £95,000 and certain trust funds and policy moneys, upon trust, for her for life, in addition to £2,000 per annum secured to her by settlement; and £203,000 upon trust, for the widow and children of his late son, Archibald Charles Henry Douglas-Pennant. The Ashwell Estate, Northamptonshire, and part of the Wicken estate, he devises to the use of Mrs Harriet Ella Douglas-Pennant, the widow of his said late son, during widowhood, and then for the children or issue of his said son as she shall appoint. The various provisions already made for his daughters by a settlement or otherwise are recited; and there are now further gifts to those not already amply provided for. The railway, waggons, horses, live and dead stock at Penrhyn Slate Quarries are made heirlooms, to go with the Penrhyn estate. There are legacies to members of his family, executors, servants, and others; and the residue of his real and personal estate he leaves to his son, George Sholto Gordon, who has succeeded to the title.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1886.

NOTES.

A ROUNDABOUT NOTICE.—The *Chester Chronicle* of Apr. 12, 1822, contains the following notice of a death:—"On the 20th ult., at Nantwich, aged 73, the Rev. Robert Smith, late officiating Minister of a certain Christian, or Pastoral Connection, or Society, denominated the Independent Society in Nantwich." J.

PEDESTRIAN WELSHWOMEN.—From the *Annual Register* of 1761.—March 5th. Last Saturday four Welsh-women walked from the foot of Westminster Bridge to the Boot and Crown over Deptford-bridge, and back again, in an hour and three quarters, for a wager of £20. They were allowed two hours and a half. The wager was between a gardener and a farmer, the gardener laying they performed it. M.

EPITAPHS IN HAWARDEN CHURCHYARD.—The quantity of poetry on the gravestones in Hawarden Churchyard is great, but the quality is at least an open question. A very common stanza to be found in all parts of the churchyard is the following:—

A faithful Friend, a wife most dear,
A tender mother lieth here,
Great is the loss that we sustain,
We hope in Christ it is her gain.

The words wife, mother, and so on, are changed into husband, father, &c., when the stone commemorates the death of a man. Thus these lines do service for both sexes. The character they give to the departed and the grief expressed by the living in consequence of their great loss through the death of a wife or husband, as the case may be, is at least in one instance apparently doubted. Thus on one stone I noticed that the third line—

Great is the loss that we sustain
is omitted. This tombstone, stands on the right hand side of the path going towards the grammar school, it is five paces from the end of the palings that border and protect the pathway. This head stone is:—

In
Memory of
Anne Taylor wife
of Thomas Taylor of Aston
who departed this life March 6th
1862 Aged 61 years.

The above inscription is followed by the stanza, with, however, the third line omitted. It is difficult to say whether this was an intentional omission, or whether the stone cutter is answerable for this suggestive error. A few years ago this important question could have been settled, for the said Thomas Taylor, as we are informed by an additional inscription, died in 1881, aged 82 years. We will not endeavour to fathom the mystery.

It would seem that people live to be aged in the parish of Hawarden. On one stone the patriarchal age of 109 is recorded. The inscription is thus:—

William Clark
Died January 20th 1844
Aged 81 years
Also Sarah Clark died April 18th 1871
Aged 109 years.

I gleaned a few particulars about this old lady. She

was latterly in the habit of saying that when young she prayed for a long life, but that God was punishing her by causing her to live too long. Sarah Clark was fresh looking for her age, but latterly she had a short memory. The Gladstone family were very kind and attentive to this old lady, and Mr Gladstone was in the habit of visiting her now and again, while he stayed at the Castle, and he complimented her upon her good looks. This compliment was repeated more than once. The old lady remembered the compliment when she heard it a second time, but she had entirely forgotten who it was that had previously complimented her upon her good looks, for she said when she heard the words repeated, "A gentleman told me last year that I was very good looking," but when Mr Gladstone asked her who had said so, she replied that she had forgotten the name. This incident is a proof, if proof were needed, that compliments are never thrown away when bestowed upon ladies. E.O.

(To be continued.)

QUERIES.

CHAINED BIBLES.—A few years ago, I believe, there was a Chained Bible in Sutton Chapel, near Shrewsbury. Is it there now? W.O.

REPLIES.

LLAMEREWIG OR LLANMEREWIG (Aug. 18, 1886).—In an old map in my possession, of, I should think, the beginning of the 17th century, the spelling is Llanmerwyg. But the spelling on this map is original and amusing, like that of most old maps. Llanllwchaiarn is Llanlohairne, and Llanidloes, Llanidlos. W.O.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Bishop of Bangor on Friday placed the memorial stone of a new church at Criccieth, which is dedicated to St. Deiniol, the first holder of the see.

Mr Raffles Davison's Rambling Sketches in the *British Architect*, include a sketch of a chair at Selattyn, and a sketch of a country church suggested by the Selattyn Church.

Lord Mostyn has commissioned Mr T. Leonard Hughes to paint a portrait of the late Colonel Sir Roger Mostyn, a former Constable of Flint Castle, for presentation to the borough of Flint, to be hung up in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall. The picture will be a copy of the family portrait now hanging at Gloddaeth.

The village of Bryngwran, Anglesey, was sold last week by auction in seventy lots, many of which were knocked down to the tenants and lessees; others have been purchased by the rector of the parish. The first sixty lots realized about £2,000. The sale was completed on Friday. The total sum realized amounted to £16,000.

According to the *Red Dragon* for September, "Another literary discovery which promises to be one of considerable interest and importance has been made by Mr. Ivor James, the registrar of the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire, who, it will be remembered produced before the London Cymmrodorion in the spring, an autobiography by Charles Edwards, the author of *Hanes y Ffydd*. We understand that the present find is nothing less than a new book by Rees Prichard, the famous Vicar of Llandoverly."

Mr Owen Edwards, of Balliol College, formerly of Llanuwchllyn, Merioneth, has been commissioned by the well known firm of G. P. Putnam and Sons of New York, to write the history of Wales for their series of the "Stories of the Nations." The book, which is to be on an elaborate scale, is to be ready for publication within 18 months.

"Frater" sends the following item of news to the *Field*:—The capture of a trout with a large stone in its stomach may be thought worthy of record. As Captain Johnes, of Garthmyl, Berriew, Montgomeryshire, was fly fishing for trout in the Tanat, he hooked and landed, with the blue dun, a trout in excellent condition, weighing 7oz. Feeling the fish unusually hard in the middle he opened it, and found a smooth stone, almost exactly an inch in length, and three-quarters of an inch across the broadest part; its thickness was from an eighth to a quarter of an inch. Captain Johnes writes:—"I have fished every spare minute I have had since I was eight years old—now, alas! forty-six years ago—and I never saw such a thing before. The trout was in better condition than any other that I had killed that day."

The Rev Evan Lloyd, of Well-street, Holywell, Calvinistic Methodist minister, died on Friday. The deceased, who was 77 years of age, was a native of Montgomeryshire, and was ordained in the year 1849. He went to reside at Holywell, and during many years of his ministry was a very popular preacher. He took great interest in the Sunday School work, having been for upwards of fifteen years the examiner of the adults in the Sunday School meetings in the district of Holywell. Mr Lloyd also took an active part in the initiative steps for the formation of an insurance company for the special insurance of the churches of the denomination. For some years he was a member of the Holywell Local Board.

Mr J. R. Davies, the well known landlord of the Corsygedol Hotel, Barmouth, died a few days ago at the age of sixty. Mr Davies was a native of Llangollen (son of Mr Edward Davies, Tycoch), and went to Barmouth about thirty years ago, when that now-popular watering place was but a village. Mr Davies found the town without gas, without an efficient water-supply, and without sewerage. He was for fifteen years chairman of the Local Board, and it was under his guidance that all these works were carried out. He was also an active member of the Dolgelley Board of Guardians, the Highway Board, and School Board. He was a staunch Churchman and Conservative, a man of great enterprise, of kindly heart and generous spirit. In addition to the hotel he carried on a farm at Llanaber. He was always jealous of the reputation of Barmouth, his adopted town, and worked hard and for many years for its success. One of his daughters is married to Mr Phil Morris, the well known artist, the pictures of whose children were presented a year or so ago with the *Illustrated London News* or the *Graphic*, one of them under the title of "Are you ready?" the other was the picture of two children with a hound. Two of Mr Davies's sons are in the medical profession. The funeral, which took place at Llanaber, was very largely attended.

OSWESTRY AND WELSHPOOL NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.—The fourth excursion for 1886 took place on Wednesday, August 18. Members and their friends mustered in strong force, and started from Oswestry at 11.30, in a break over the Bwlch Sychtyn to Llansilin, and then on to the Moelfre pool. Having explored the marshy ground round the pool they walked on to Llangadwaladr, noticing the curious carved stone by the road side on the way. There they visited the church, which has lately been very well re-

stored. There is a fine old oak chest in the vestry, and some very fine old yew trees in the churchyard. The party then ascended the Gyrn Moelfre, and had a very fine view from the top. Leaving the Gyrn they proceeded to Rhiwlas, where they were hospitably entertained by Mr and Mrs Jebb to tea. Here their conveyance met them, and they returned to Oswestry over the Racecourse, having spent a very pleasant day. There were present Colonel and Mrs Barnes, Mrs H. Barnes and Master Barnes, Miss Chapman, Mr and Mrs Jebb and Miss Jebb, Rev. H. Moody and party, Mr and Miss Lee, the Revs. H. Holbech, J. Griffith, H. R. Scott, and O. M. Feildon, and Messrs Wakelam, Oswald, and Rees. Among the plants found may be mentioned *scutellaria galericulata*, *menyanthes trifoliata*, *picris heitracioides*, *spiræa salicifolia*, *allosorus crispa*, and *asplenium trichomanes*.

GLACIAL MARKINGS AT BARMOUTH.

During a recent brief visit to Barmouth I observed on the hill at the back of Marine-terrace certain very remarkable glacier markings. Can you or any reader of yours inform me whether they have been observed and described by any competent geologist? The grooves and scorings, if not absolutely unique in North Wales, are exceedingly interesting and beautiful, and will alone repay a visit to this most attractive watering place. Some slight clearing of the soil in the vicinity would, I believe, reveal still more of their beauty, and would, not improbably, disclose glacier remains if not as extensive as the wonderful glacier garden at Lucerne certainly not less interesting and important. The quarryman and road-maker have already gone perilously near their destruction, but I think were the good people of Barmouth aware of the attraction these remains have for their geological visitors they would take steps to protect and further expose these records of the extremely remote past of their locality.

I shall be glad to indicate the exact position of these markings more accurately than may be done in the limited space I ask for this communication, to anyone who may be interested in the matter. B.

SEPTEMBER 8, 1886.

NOTES.

ACCOUNTS RELATING TO DISSOLVED MONASTERIES IN MONTGOMERYSHIRE AND SALOP, &c.—Exchequer: Ministers' Accounts.

35-36, Hen. VIII., No. 178, dated 18 Aug., relating to the Monastery of Chirbury.

33-34, Hen. VIII., No. 217 and 222, Relating to Monasteries in Cardigan, Flint, and Montgomery, No. 227, Strata Marcella, accounts relating thereto.

27-32, Hen. VIII., No. 209, dated Aug., similar accounts, and 32-33, No. 163, August, similar accounts.

28-29, Hen. VIII., Receivers' Accounts relating to the possessions of Dissolved Monasteries in the Dioceses of St. Asaph and Bangor.

27-28 & 28-29, Hen. VIII., Accounts of the Receiver of the possessions of the Dissolved Abbey of Llanllugan.

PEARMAN.

THE CHAMPION.—Mr W. Andrews contributed a paper on the Dymoke Family to the *Northampton Herald* of May 15, 1880, in course of which he says:—On the same eminent authority we may state that the name of Dymoke is Welsh. The Dymokes, or Dymocks—the name is spelt both ways—claim a traditional descent from Tudor Trevor, Lord Hereford and Whittington, the founder of the tribe of the Marches. The chief had three sons, the second of whom, marrying a daughter of the Prince of North Wales, half a century before the Norman Conquest, became the ancestor of one David ap Madoc, who in the Welsh tongue was styled colloquially Dai Madoc, the word Dai being the short form of David. His son and heir was David ap Dai Madoc, or David Dai Madoc; and by the usual abridgment "Dai Madoc" came in the course of time to be pronounced as Daimoc or Damoc, the transition from which to Dimoc or Dymoc, and again from that to Dimock or Dymoke is easy and obvious. This certainly is the origin of the name of the Dymocks of Penley Hall, Flintshire; and most probably the Dymokes of Lincolnshire were of the same original stock. J.

QUERIES.

UNLUCKY NUMBERS.—Considerable diversity of opinion has recently been exhibited in Spain as to whether the infant Prince should be christened by the name of Alfonso the XIII.—or by some other name. The Court held the view that it would be unlucky—the Queen Regent that it would not, for, said she, is there not Pope Leo the XIII., and was he not the wisest of Pontiffs? And so the Infant Prince is now King of Spain as Alfonso the XIII. That the number 13 is an unlucky one is the fixed opinion of many people in this country. Thirteen was the number of the traitorous guest at the Last Supper, and so not unreasonably it is argued thirteen has ever since become a hated figure. In all probability, however, the number 13 was in pre-Christian times regarded with superstition, and when Judas betrayed his Lord the fact of his being the thirteenth was widely noticed.

Among the Basques and various even more primitive peoples the idea is of primeval origin, and is associated in antiquity with the spilling of salt, the crossing of knives, the screech of the owl, the barking of dogs, the commencement of any task on a Friday, and many world-spread notions about sorcery and witchcraft, which are now universally recognized to be survivals from an age of nature, or perhaps, as it may more appropriately be termed—devil-worship—at all events not only in this country, and still more markedly in France, but all over the East, the belief in the bad luck of thirteen sitting down at table is so prevalent that if by any chance that number assembles in the dining-room either a guest will withdraw or a fourteenth be added from any source. A Parisian householder whose number chances to be 13, behaves with the Frenchman's usual tact, when he for 13 substitutes 12 *bis*, for he knows that his neighbours would otherwise regard the house as unlucky. Our American cousins, though, are not so superstitious, for in New York there is a thirteen club which dines on a Friday, passes under a ladder

before sitting down to table, spills salt habitually, prints its *menu* on a card shaped like a tombstone, serves the vegetables in coffin shaped dishes, and sets forth the salt in thirteen cellars, celebrates their lugubrious feast in parties of thirteen, and with a breadth of sentiment which leaves nothing to be desired, fixes the maximum amount of wine to be drunk at thirteen bottles per man.

Is there not one exception to this idea about the unluck attached to the number thirteen? Is not thirteen considered the most lucky number of eggs to be put under a duck or hen for sitting? Can anyone in Wales or the border counties say? SCEPTICAL.

REPLIES.

MORRIS DANCING (June 2, 1886).—MERLIN asks if there are any lingering remembrances of Morris Dancing in Shropshire or the other border counties. I can recollect seeing Morris Dancers in the streets of Shrewsbury between thirty and forty years ago, but I think they were only men out of work who adopted that method of soliciting alms. W. O.

CURRENT NOTES.

ORIGIN OF THE WORD "BAILEY" (August 18, 1886).—"A.H." writes to the *Athenæum*:—"I find record of a Bailey Hill known as the site of Mold Castle. The hill is termed Yr Wyddgrug in Welsh, which I am told does duty for "the obvious or conspicuous;" it became Mons Altus to the Normans. Mold is the head of a hundred, so this Bailey Hill may have been used for the local folk-mote; but I do not understand if this Bailey Hill is a glacial moraine, nor if it be identical with Montalt Castle, the stronghold of a baronial family, 1160-1299, now represented by the Maudes, Viscounts Hawarden.

THE WHITCHURCH (SALOP) CHURCH BELLS.—These bells after tuning and hanging were re-opened on Tuesday, August 31. There was a brief service in the church at 3 p.m., after which several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung under the lead of the Rev C. D. P. Davies, late curate at Whitchurch. On Wednesday, with the aid of some of the ringers from Chester Cathedral, a peal of 5,040 Grandsire Triples, lasting a considerable time, was rung. In the evening, the ringers, churchwardens, sidesmen, and the rector, dined at the Fox and Goose Hotel, by the kind invitation of Mr W. L. Brookes.

SEPTEMBER 15, 1886.

NOTES.

ROMAN REMAINS.—In the month of December, 1793, a beautiful tessellated floor was discovered on the farm of Mr Water, at the Lea, between Hanwood and Pontesbury. It measured between 13 and 14 feet square, consisting of small tessellæ of red brick, whitish marble and brown, black and grey stone, and appeared to have belonged to the bathing apartments of an elegant Roman villa, mortar floors having been found near it, three feet below its level, with the foundation of such brick pillars as usually supported the floors of a sudatory: numerous fragments of square flues or tunnels of tiles furred within with smoke were also found, with some pieces of leaden pipe, charred wood, pottery of blackish earth, and a channel or gutter to carry off water, corresponding with the descent of the ground. M.

LETTERS BY LORD CLIVE (Aug. 18, 1886).—The following four letters of Lord Clive's are given in the recently published India Office Records. They were (says *The Times*) written many years later, when the writer had become a peer and famous as the victor of Plassey. They were all written during his first visit to England, and they are in his own handwriting. They relate chiefly to the negotiations then in progress between the Company and the Dutch, who sent over Commissaries to London in order to obtain reparation for what they termed their unjust treatment by Clive in Bengal. The first letter is in many respects the most important and remarkable, but all deserve careful preservation. The reader will not fail to notice the passage in which he says "delay and chicanery is allowable against those who take advantage of the times, our distresses and situation."

Sir,—I have been looking over all my papers, & find that all those which were collected together for the forming the Dutch Memorial are missing. Consequently they must be mislaid. However, I shall be able to make them all out but one or two, if you will send me the Bengal country correspondence from the 15th Sept., 1759, to the 15th December, 1759. The others you will find entered in the Bengal Consultations for the year 1759. Enclosed is a paper which will explain this matter to you.

You will also receive several private letters from Hastings and Sykes which must convince you as much as circumstances did me at the time that the Dutch forces were not sent with a view only of defending their own settlement but absolutely with a design of disputing our influence & possessions. Certain ruin must have been the consequence to the East India Company. They were raising black forces at Patna, Cossin Bazar, Chinsura, &c., & were working night & day to complete a Field Artillery. They bought a great number of Draught Bullocks & Carriages. All these preparations previous to the commencement of hostilities, plainly prove the Dutch meant to act offensively not defensively.

There is not the least doubt but the old Nabob originally encourag'd them to undertake this expedition from Batavia, tho' he might be sorry for it afterwards. The whole tenor of his behaviour shows him to be under some kind of restriction with regard to the Dutch, which he was very unwilling should come to our knowledge.

If you will look into the consultations I believe you will find all the particulars of the attack off Chinsura upon our Seapoys who were escorting to Calcutta Coja Warjeed, & I believe you will also find in the consultations the latter end of the year 57 or in the year 58 a copy of the Dutch petition to the Nabob for the exclusive privilege of Ophium and Saltpetre. However if you should not every gentleman of the Council here are ready to witness that they have seen such a petition.

I forgot to put you in mind of getting a Major and Lieut-Col's commission for Carnac; the warmth of his temper may have made him guilty of some little levities & indiscretions. Yet I think his successes entitle him to some notice. I can answer for his integrity & attachment to the Company's service. The French being drove from India this is the time for the Company to expect to reap the advantages of their success & I do take upon myself to pronounce that the Company will never reap these advantages if the military fight for themselves & not the public & that they will fight & act for themselves so long as they are independent & cannot be called to account for their actions is as certain as that you & I exist. I hope the time will come when your forces as well as your pos-

sessions may be call'd your own whenever there is a peace the regiments abroad being all young ones will infallibly be broke, & the officers reduc'd to half pay. If at that juncture you add the other half they will be glad to accept of your service on those conditions which will be a very great saving to the Company.

I find a war with Spain is unavoidable, what has lately happen'd does great honor to Mr Pitt & must justify his sentiments to all the world. As a well-wisher to the Company I could wish in these troublesome times he was in power again. I do confess *entre nous* I have my fears & apprehensions. I do suspect that some of the great Ones have had hopes given them that the Dutch may be induced to join us in this war against the Spaniards. If such an event should take place I fear some sacrifices will be made in the East Indies. I pray God my suspicions may be without foundation. I think delay & chicanery is allowable against those who take advantage of the times, our distresses & situation.

Let me also mention Knox to you who in a military capacity has done great things. An order appointing him Commr of all the Seapoys & a Major's commission will induce him to stay & only be an additional expense to the Company of five shillings per diem. I have no other view in mentioning this but the public good, for I think at this juncture the loss of so useful an officer should not be risqu'd.

I must now appear in another light. I mean a selfish one, by recommending to your favour a brother who is desirous of going in a civil capacity to Bengal. He is qualifying himself for that purpose, & will be ready to obey the orders of his honorable masters the beginning of the year 1763. I have made application thus early from what you told me some time ago.

I am, Sir, your obd. humble ser.

CLIVE.

Berkeley-square, Sunday morning (27th December, 1761).

Sir,—You will be pleased to acquaint the gentlemen in the Direction I am very sorry I was not in town time enough to attend their summons. I did intend being at Court upon this occasion, but was prevented by the rains which have overflowed the country in several parts. If my presence should become necessary hereafter the gentlemen in the Direction may command the attendance of,

Sir, your most obedient servant,

CLIVE.

Berkeley-square, Monday evening (18 January, 1762.)

Sir,—One of the articles of the Treaty with Meer Jaffier says the Company shall enjoy the zemidary of the lands from Calcutta down to Culpee, they paying what is paid in the King's Books.

There was a dispute between the Council and Nabob whether Calcutta meant the country of Calcutta or the town of Calcutta. The country of Calcutta included a tract of land from the town to Banquabazar. This point was not settled for near 18 months after the Subah's creation, when the whole country from Bankabazar to Culpee was ceded in the Company's favour. I do not suppose the Dutch were acquainted with the nature of the dispute when they delivered their Petition, if they did they knew the land they asked leave to fortify upon was land which we laid claim to by virtue of our Treaty with the Nabob.

To the best of my remembrance this is the true state of the case, with which you will be pleased to acquaint the gentlemen in the Direction.

I am, with great esteem, Sir, your most obedient

humble servant,

CLIVE.

Berkeley-square, 21 January, 1762.

Sir,—I desire you will inform the gentlemen of the Committee that I think I cannot explain myself much more fully on the subject than I have already done. I do remember to have wrote such a letter as is set forth in the 12th page of the appendix in the Dutch Memorial, but as I am without a copy of that letter I cannot be certain the article I sent Mr Bisdou was called the 13th; if it was it must be a mistake in the interpreter, because I do not understand Persian, and all the articles were wrote in that language, but as I did enclose to Mr Bisdou an article I do verily believe, nay I am almost certain, it must be the second article which has been falsely translated to serve a particular purpose, and I must insist upon it, if what they call the 13th article should prove to be verbatim the same as the second, which can only be prov'd by producing the Persian Article itself, it must prove that there never existed a 13th because it would be absurd to repeat the same article twice.

As to the solemn ratification and confirmation by oath, &c., that might have been sent with the 2nd Persian article to enforce it with Mr Bisdou, tho' it be no part of that particular article, but belongs to and precedes the whole.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

CLIVE.

Berkeley-square, 15th Dec., 1762.

This letter to the Secretary relates to the 13th Article of the Treaty with Mir Jaffier, complained of by the Dutch.

W.O.

QUERIES.

TOLLING, ANNOUNCING A DEATH, AT TOWYN.—I should like if a Towyn correspondent would give the peculiarities of the tolling of the Church bell at Towyn, announcing a death in the parish. My recollections are that the tolling took place within some certain hours after the death. Very frequently our slumbers were broken by hearing the "Cnul," as it was called, going at different hours of the night; the beat also was different for a male, female, and child.

The Towyn "Cnul," and the Machynlleth street bell, had different purposes, the latter announced a funeral, the former informed us of a death having recently occurred.

T.W.H.

MASTER NICHOLS, SHERIFFE OF MONTGOMERY.—A pamphlet entitled "*A Continuation of the late Proceedings of His Majesties Army at Shrewsbury, &c. London: printed for M. Batt, Oct. 12, 1642,*" 4to, pp 7—written while Charles I. was at Shrewsbury, and intended to exasperate the citizens of the Metropolis against him, says "I conceive it a great pity his Majesty should be brought into any streights. God reward them that have been the occasion of it! But of this I am sure of, he is much abused by his plundering Cavaliers, who daily plunder and undoe men, and say they have Commission for it. They have plundered Master Nichols House, who is Sheriff of Montgomery, and burned his writings, spoiled his house, sold his furnace, and the iron of his carts." Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* say in what year Master Nichols was Sheriff of Montgomery, was his house in the county, and where?

SABRINA.

REPLIES.

WILD SWANS (May 5, 1886).—With reference to the question asked regarding Wild Swans, it may have escaped notice that Mr Beckwith in the contribution recently reprinted in *Bye-Gones*, says that Baggymoor was a favourite resort of geese, swans, and other wild fowl, before it was drained, and that on the 4th of March, 1881, he saw at Whitemere a single swan fly away from among the tame ones. But whether it was a wild one, or a vagabond tame one, he does not know. It would be well to have a more precise record of rare animals of all kinds which have disappeared, or are disappearing from this country. A complete list of the fauna of the district would be interesting. Cannot TANTARA, who has done so much to encourage the study of local natural history, help us in this matter? BONWM.

CURRENT NOTES.

The parish Church of Great Wollaston, was re-opened on Thursday by the Bishop of Hereford after restoration.

GLACIAL MARKINGS AT BARMOUTH.

(September 1, 1886.)

In the *Oswestry Advertiser* of September 1, your correspondent "B." draws attention to the "Glacier markings" at Barmouth. These "grooves and scorings," so far from being "absolutely unique in North Wales," are very common. But, whilst in foreign countries frequented by tourists much is made of these relics of the Glacial period, scarcely any notice is taken of them in Wales. As a rule guides and guide books know nothing of them. I have lately had an opportunity of partially exploring the Plynlimon district for Glacial tracings, and found them very numerous and extensive. The groovings in many instances are deeply and beautifully formed. In one place where the face of the rock had only lately become exposed by means of one of those occurrences peculiar to mountainous districts, and generally called "Cloud burstings," the groovings looked almost as sharp and fresh as if only just taken out of a planing machine. A small amount of manual labour would be sufficient to clear a large area of the rock here. All these groovings run in the direction of the valley, except here and there, where evidences of later geological disturbances are found. In the valleys of Nantyllyn, Dyffryn Castell, Nantyceria, &c., all running westward of Plynlimon, these Glacial groovings are numerous, and anyone interested in such matters may find a delightful week's occupation by taking up his quarters at Devil's Bridge or Dyffryn Castell Hotels. JNO. DAVIES.

Tanyralt Mines, Aberystwyth.

PRE-HISTORIC CAVES IN NORTH WALES.

At the late meeting of the British Association at Birmingham, Dr. H. Hicks, F.R.S., read a paper on "Evidence of Pre-Glacial Man in North Wales." He described the conditions under which some flint implements had been discovered during researches carried on by Mr E. B. Luxmoore and himself in the Ffynnon Beuno and Cae Gwynn caves in the Vale of Clwyd, in the years 1884-86. The caverns were explored by himself and friends for the first time in 1884, and some of the results were given by him in a paper at the last meeting of the British Association. The facts then obtained had led him to the conclusion that pleistocene animals and man must have occupied the caverns before the glacial beds which occur in the area had been deposited, as it had been found that although the caverns are now 400 feet above the level of the sea the

materials within them had been disturbed by marine action since the pleistocene animals and man had occupied them. Moreover, deposits with foreign pebbles similar to those in the glacial beds were found in caverns overlying the bones. Last year a grant was made by the British Association for the purpose of carrying on the exploration, chiefly with the object of getting further evidence as to the age of the deposits in the caverns. The results obtained this year were highly confirmatory of his views, and had an important bearing on the antiquity of man in Britain. Stet cave had been blocked up by a considerable thickness of glacial beds which must have been deposited subsequently to the occupation of the cave by the pleistocene mammals. A shaft was dug through these beds in front of the entrance to a depth of over 20 feet, and in the bone earth, which extended outwards under the glacial beds, on the south side of the entrance, a small well-worked flint flake was discovered, its position being about 18 inches beneath the lowest bed of sand. It seemed clear that the contents of the cavern must have been washed out by marine action during the great submergence in mid-glacial times, and then covered by marine sand and an upper boulder clay. He believed that the flint implements, lance heads, and scrapers found in the caverns were also of the same age as the flint flake, hence that they must all have been the work of pre-glacial man.—The President, in conveying the thanks of the section to Dr. Hicks, said the paper bristled with material for an animated and interesting discussion.—Professor Boyd Dawkins accepted the evidence on this question of the antiquity of man, and fully accepted the conclusions which Dr. Hicks had so well put before them.—Mr Durance said he had not the slightest doubt in the world that the section which had been laid before them was as typical a section as was to be found in the Cheshire and Welsh district, and this particular flint implement was of a later date than the boulder clay and sand by which it was overlaid.—Mr Moreton, Liverpool (who was present when the flint was discovered), said nothing was ever found about which there could be less doubt. It was found in the bone earth—not by Dr. Hicks or himself, but by a workman who was digging under their superintendence, and some 18 inches from the top of the bone earth.—Mr W. Pengelly (Professor Boyd Dawkins having first taken the chair), said the first flint implements found were nodule tools and then came flake tools. It was therefore possible for a mere flake to be evidence of human existence, and he believed this was a case of that kind. Though he should not call it an implement, he as firmly believed in its artificial origin as that a tailor made the coat he wore. To him it was a delicious discovery, inasmuch as he had for long stood to a great extent alone in the opinion that the nodule flint tools in Kent's cavern were of pre-glacial make.—Professor Sebohm suggested that for the sake of accuracy Dr. Hicks should substitute the word inter-glacial for pre-glacial in his paper.—Dr. Garson remarked that the question which would naturally occur to the minds of those who had listened to Dr. Hicks's paper would be—What was the date of the glacial period? How long back had they evidence of man's existence? The circular variations of climate had been shown to be caused indirectly by changes in the eccentricity of the world's orbit. This gave the means of ascertaining the date and duration of the glacial period. It had been calculated from very good data that the last glacial epoch began about 240,000 years and ended about 100,000 years ago, and therefore lasted 140,000 years. If it was found that these flints were the work of pre-glacial, or even inter-glacial man, as there seemed to be very little doubt after what they had heard, they had direct evidence of the long

period during which man had existed, and the opinions of human morphologists were confirmed by independent and direct geological evidence.—Dr. Hicks, in responding, stated that arrangements had been made to continue the explorations.

Professor Boyd Dawkins read a paper on "The Exploration of Gop Cairn and Cave St. Asaph," at present being carried on by Mr Pochin, Mr P. G. Pochin, and himself. The cairn, which was commonly known as Queen Boadicea's tomb, was composed of limestone, about 40ft. high, 300ft. long, and 200ft. broad. A shaft was sunk near the centre of the cairn, but the only remains discovered were a few refuse heaps of bones of hog, sheep, goat, ox, or horse, too fragmentary to be accurately determined. They were, however, of the character found almost universally in Britain in the burial places of the Neolithic and bronze ages. The cairn was similar in character to one near Mold, in the same district, in which in 1832 was discovered a skeleton lying at full length, clad in a golden corslet, now in the British Museum, and adorned with 300 amber beads. The large size of the cairn implied that it was raised in honour of some chieftain conspicuous above his fellows, and the trifling results obtained so far were due to the fact that the explorers had not yet reached the place of interment. A cave was discovered 141ft. away, in which were found bones and teeth of various animals, including those of the woolly rhinoceros, bison, horned reindeer, stag, roe, and cave hyena, which belonged to the Pleistocene age, and similar to those discovered in the caves of the Vale of Clwyd. Above those were found fragments of charcoal and large quantities of broken bones of wild and domestic animals, comprising the badger, fox, martin, &c., and mingled with these were large round stones, which had been used as pot boilers, and a few flint splinters. The position of the fireplace was indicated by some slabs of limestone burned. The date of this upper deposit was fixed by several fragments of pottery similar to that of the bronze age. A large number of human bones were found, increasing in number as the explorers dug their way to a square sepulchral chamber, 4ft. 10in. long by 3ft. 10in. wide, three sides of which were composed of slabs of limestone, the fourth by the inner side of the cave, and the top by the limestone rock. The human remains threw great light on the ethnology of the district in the bronze age, and proved that in the Neolithic age the population of that part of Wales was of the Iberian type, so widely spread throughout Europe. All the skulls were of this type save one, which possessed all the characteristics usually found in a round-headed Celt of the bronze age, and which appeared to indicate that fusion of the two races which had been going on ever since, and by which the Iberian type was at the present time being slowly obliterated.

SEPTEMBER 22, 1886.

NOTES.

THE BIBLE USED AS A TALISMAN.—Many persons have consulted, and possibly, still do consult the Bible for direction in difficulties, by opening it haphazard, and taking the first verse that the eye falls upon as a guide for their conduct under the circumstances in which they are placed; but lately I heard of another use to which the Bible was formerly put in secluded parts of Wales, viz., to act as a talisman. Two tales that hail from Llanerfyl, Montgomeryshire, shall be given

in corroboration of this. There was once in that parish a man greatly troubled with asthma, he related to a neighbour that he had failed to get a remedy for his ailment, but this neighbour advised the sufferer to place a Bible under his head for three nights in succession, and that would bring about a cure. The tale goes, that the man's wife sought in various directions the loan of a Bible, and at last she was successful in obtaining the loan of an old English Bible—she would have preferred a Welsh one of course—but the other one was alone forthcoming. This she placed that very night under her husband's head, presumed under his pillow, and he slept soundly all through the night. This is the first tale. The second is as follows:—A farmer had a cow taken ill suddenly of a Sunday. He gave her a dose of physic, but to all appearance she was now dying, and in his extremity he ran to the house, and with his Bible in his hand, he returned to the cowhouse, and then and there he read a chapter to the sick cow, and she recovered. Perhaps some of the numerous correspondents to *Bye-Gones* can supplement what I have written with like tales? E. O.

QUERIES.

PARK PEN-PRYCE.—This is the name of a well known farm near Caersws. Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* say what is the meaning of Pen-Pryce.

KERIST.

REPLIES.

UNLUCKY NUMBERS (Sept. 8, 1886).—In reply to SCEPTICAL, I beg to state that in Montgomeryshire it is considered unlucky to put a duck or hen to sit on an even number of eggs; so eleven is usually put under the former and thirteen under the latter (but if duck eggs are used, the number is eleven.) T.H.J.

MACHYNLLETH.—RINGING A HANDBELL BEFORE A FUNERAL (Aug. 25, 1886).—A correspondent mentions the ringing of a bell in the street at Machynlleth, announcing a funeral, to be in existence now. I remember it was told me in 1837, when I made a remark to an old inhabitant about it, that it had been an old custom "since no one knew when." It was customary at that date to ring it the day *before* the funeral, by a boy, who started at the *Doll*, proceeded along one side of Penrallt-street, and Maengwyn-street, to near the turnpike house, and then rang down the street on the other side, down and up Pentrethedyn-street, finishing at the Church porch. T.W.H.

CURRENT NOTES.

The following epitaph is to be found on the gravestone of Thomas Acton, in the churchyard of Over Peover, near Knutsford:

My smithy and my hammer lie declined,
My bellows, too, have lost their wind,
My fires extinct and forge decayed,
And in the dust my vice is laid;
My coal is spent, my iron is gone,
My last nail's drove, my work is done.

The Bible Society has recently issued an edition of the New Testament in Welsh, bound in leather cloth, which is sold at a penny.

The following are among "Leaves from our Early Issues," now being published in the *North Wales Chronicle* (From October 9 to November 27, 1817.)—On Monday the inhabitants of Carnarvon and the other parishioners of Llanbeblig, being given to understand that the Rev Mr Trevor, deacon, was nominated by the Bishop of Chester to succeed their late worthy vicar (the Rev Mr Jones), and that he was totally unacquainted with the language, which is the vernacular tongue of the majority of the parishioners, they unanimously resolved to enter a caveat to any person being inducted to the vicarage of Llanbeblig labouring under such disqualification.—A violent Welsh squire having taken offence at a poor curate who employed his leisure hours in mending clocks and watches, applied to the late Bishop of St. Asaph with a formal complaint against him for impiously carrying on a trade contrary to the statute. His lordship, having heard the complaint, told the squire he might depend upon it the strictest justice should be done in this case. Accordingly, the mechanic divine was sent for a few days after, when the Bishop asked him "How dare he disgrace his diocese by becoming a mender of clocks and watches." The other, with all humility, answered, "To satisfy the wants of a wife and ten children." "That won't do with me," rejoined the prelate, "I shall inflict such a punishment upon you as shall make you leave off your pitiful trade, I promise you;" and immediately calling to his secretary ordered him to make out a presentation for the astonished curate to a living of at least £150 per annum.

A correspondent of the *Athenæum* writes under the signature of "E.O." :—An announcement has recently been made that, owing to the enhanced cost of the production of the "Red Book of Hergest," the arrangement by which the Cymmrodorion Society had agreed to take several hundred copies for distribution to its members has fallen through. This seems to me a great pity, and I hope that it may yet be possible to find a way by which the Society can give its assistance in the production of this and other Welsh texts. The members who are desirous of seeing the original proposal carried out might be asked whether they would be willing to increase their annual subscriptions, and I have no doubt a fair response would be made. At any rate it appears that some further information is desirable, either from the Council of the Society or from the gentleman who was to produce the work, as to the chances of its early production. The Society appealed for additional support because of its intention to take part in the scheme for publishing important Welsh manuscripts, and the reason alleged for its withdrawal can hardly be deemed sufficient by those who joined by reason of such appeal. The Society appears also to have got into rather a comatose state. Until the present year it has been the custom to hold an annual reunion of its members, which has been one of the pleasantest and most profitable gatherings of the session, but, notwithstanding an announcement of its probable date, no such meeting has yet been held in 1886. The forthcoming season might well be opened by such a gathering, which would perhaps have the effect of imparting more interest to succeeding meetings than was evinced in those of the past year.

SALE OF FAMILY PLATE AT THE LODGE, OVERTON.—Mr Frank Lloyd of Wrexham, on Tuesday, September 14th, conducted a sale of the family plate and other effects of the late Miss Kenyon, the Lodge, Overton. There was a large attendance and some of the plate realized high prices. For four antique silver salt cellars the

bidding was run up by sixpences per ounce weight, until it reached £1 10s 6d, per ounce, at which figure it was knocked down to a London agent. The four salt cellars fetched £21 7s. Other articles fetched 10s, 12s, and 15s, an ounce. In all the plate weighed about a thousand ounces. A small sugar basket and sifter, an antique fish slice, and a small silver salver were very briskly bidden for; also a remarkably fine old claret jug and two small drinking cups, which attracted great attention.

CHARLES EDWARDS, AUTHOR OF "HANES Y FFYDD," AND HIS TIMES. (April 21, 1886.)

I noticed in your issue of the 21st April some tables which Mr Ivor James stated were compiled from State Papers, and which exhibited under counties in Wales the number of estates which had been dealt with during the Cromwellian period by the Sequestration Commissioners. He, relying on the accuracy of his figures, drew some very sweeping conclusions as to the way the Welsh gentry were crushed by the operation. I have reason to believe Mr James has, unwittingly it is probable, greatly exaggerated the number, for he appears to have reckoned up the items in the *Indices Locorum* of the two series, and treated each item as a separate estate. Having myself copied and published in "Montgomeryshire Collections" an account of each sequestration in the county of Montgomery, I can say that instead of 281 separate estates having been dealt with by the Sequestration Commissioners, there were not more than 56 to 58. I am writing without referring, so am not certain within one or two. Most, if not all the owners of these, paid the fines, the acknowledgments for which are on the papers in the several volumes referring to them, and retained their estates. As an illustration of the point, the estates of Sir Percy Herbert are mentioned in the *Indices Locorum* under no less than 58 separate headings. Some of these, though, relate to his Hendon property in England. I feel sure Mr Ivor James will not take amiss this correction, as he will have an opportunity of adjusting the figures relating to Wales generally, by examining the Indices with my explanation, that the compiler of them wherever he met a place name, or name of a field even, treated it as a separate item.

If the papers relating to the other Welsh counties were treated in the same manner as the "Powysland Club" has treated those relating to Montgomeryshire, a mass of valuable matter would be added to our present knowledge, as these papers exhibit the incomes of the delinquents and in many cases family settlements are quoted from. There is also a vast amount of trustworthy genealogical information embedded in these volumes, as well as references to incidents connected with the Civil Wars, which probably do not appear elsewhere. Having spent a good deal of time poring over them, I am familiar with their contents, and often regret the matter has not been taken up, as it is nothing more than a question of copying, and as a general rule there is no difficulty in deciphering the caligraphy.

E. ROWLEY-MORRIS.
58, Great Titchfield-street, London.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION EXCURSIONS IN SHROPSHIRE.

On Saturday, September 4, a party numbering about fifty visited the Wrekin and district. The party was led by Dr. Ch. Callaway, M.A., F.S.S. At the Wrekin the party first examined the archæan volcanic rocks forming the nucleus of the chain of hills. The bedded ashes and agglomerates were clearly seen to dip to the north. The

quartzites flanking the ridge on each side were also pointed out. The members then passed over the outcrops of the Hollybush sardstone to Wenlock Wood, where the Tremadoc shales are slightly exposed. The party next ascended the slope to recross the axis of the chain, examining on their way a quarry of Hollybush sandstone. At the summit of the ridge the structure of the mountain was described. Last of all, the members visited Overlay Hill, where the archæan lavas, first noticed by Mr S. Allport, of the Mason College, are admirably exposed. At Overlay, the residence of Mr J. Beattie, a warm welcome from the host and hostess greeted the party, to meet whom the principal residents of the locality had been invited. After a sumptuous banquet—modestly called a tea—had been enjoyed, the visitors expressed, through Dr Callaway and other members, their thorough appreciation of the generous and graceful hospitality of Mr and Mrs Beattie. The kindness of the Hon. R. C. Herbert, the proprietor of the district traversed, who had made special arrangements for the convenience of the party, was also thankfully acknowledged. On the return of the party to the Wellington railway station, at a meeting held in a waiting-room, a cordial vote of thanks to the leader was passed.—An excursion to Buildwas Abbey and to Wenlock Abbey, by permission of Mr C. M. Gaskell, who entertained the visitors, was made under the leadership of Mr John Cotton. The party visited, under the guidance of Mr R. F. Martineau and Mr F. W. Martin, Shifnal Church, Tong Church, and Wrottesley Hall. At Wrottesley Hall, they were entertained at a garden party by Lady Wrottesley. The return journey was commenced by a drive through Tettenhall to Wolverhampton. For the geological members of the party special arrangements were made in order that they might inspect some of the more remarkable of the erratic blocks in the neighbourhood of Shifnal.

On Thursday, Sep. 9, the excursion arrived at Leebotwood Station, and then passed along the Watling Street, and over a complicated bit of country, not well exposed, but in which the coal-bearing rocks, the Silurian rocks like those of Dudley, and the ancient volcanic group of the Uriconian system occur within a stone's throw of one another, having been brought into this position by cracks and faults of great magnitude. The work of the day actually began on the flanks of the Lawley, which is composed of rocks similar to those of the Wrekin, and which occur in the N.E. and S.W. line of fault which bounds the Wrekin, and runs south, probably as far as the picturesque hills of Radnor, throwing down the rocks on one side to the depth of 20,000 feet. In the neighbourhood of the Lawley, and on the flanks of the Little Caradoc and Caer Caradoc were seen the rocks whose age was first determined by Dr. Callaway, the Quartzite, the Hollybush Sandstone, and Shinetox Shales. In the two latter of these fossils have been found at rare intervals, and these clearly correlate the rocks with the sandstones and shales near the Malverns, and with the Lingula Flags and the Tremadoc slate of North and South Wales. Here and there along the line of walk were pointed out the facts which conclusively prove that the Caradoc group of Murchison rests in the edges of the older rocks of the chains which had been folded, crushed, and much denuded before the deposition of the newer group. Then the party ascended Caer Caradoc, and after a sharp climb were rewarded by a view which amply repaid them for their trouble. Standing in the middle of the camp of Caractacus they saw the strange old plain of the Longmynd, scarred and seamed through long ages by running water, so that now it is cut down into a set of steep-sided valleys, divided by narrow ridges. No

more instructive example of the power of streams to form bold features, and of the gentle agencies of rain and wind to round off the asperities could easily be obtained. Beyond the Longmynd and the Stiperstones were seen, culminating in the jagged crags of the Devil's Chair, the Manstone Rock, and the Cranberry Rock, and beyond this range again the Corndon Mountain, and even the Berwyns, Cader Idris, and Snowdon. To the north was the Wrekin and the plain through which the silver Severn winds, and to the east the agencies which are responsible for surface relief. Rain and rivers have carved out the alternative layers of hard and soft rock into the wavy scraps of Wenlock Edge, of Aymestry, and the lava-capped hills of the Clec; while the out-standing masses of Cardington and Hope Bowdler Hills owe their position mainly to the effect of great earth movements, undoubtedly showing the effect of later earth sculpture in modelling their minor forms. These ridges sweep away to the south, and beyond them the Malvern range with Clun and Radnor forest were seen. Standing in the centre of Murchison's Siluria, the view comprehends the most typical development of the rocks of his Silurian system. On descending the hill, those of the party who wished for a more easy walk went down to Church Stretton, and had a look at the church and other picturesque buildings of the quaint old-world little town. The rest saw some of the subdivisions of Murchison's Caradoc rocks, the Hoare-edge grits, the Harnage shales, the Sondly building sandstones, and the Cheney Longville flags, many of which are crammed with those fossils which form such a beautiful ornament to the plates of Murchison's Siluria, and Mr La Touche's recently-published "Geology of Shropshire." Another glimpse of the Uriconian rocks and of the Longmynd series completed the day's work.

On Friday, Sep. 10, the party met at Craven Arms Station, and proceeded to Plowden, where they viewed the section in which Salter first proved the truth of Sedgwick's prediction that the beds below the Wenlock series of Shropshire would be separated by a break indicating great lapse of time from the Caradoc rocks in which they rest. At Plowden Station the Cambrian rocks of the Longmynd were seen, and following the river section, a view was obtained of the Beach rocks along the ancient shore line of the lowest Silurian beds, resting uncomfortably on this older series. The evidence of a gradual land subsidence was seen in the Tarannon and the Wenlock shales and limestones which overlie the Beach rocks. A fault again brings up the Longmynd beds, near Horderly Station, and here this is found to be distinctly overlaid by the various divisions of the Caradoc beds, the lower rocks of which, although they contain limestone, have pebbles in them derived from the denudation of the old rock beneath them. The little Onney river (a very hard workman in flood, as its broken bridges and the careful measurement of its work by Mr La Touche attest) then flows through lovely wooded scenery, exposing as it does so, a fairly continuous section of the whole Caradoc sequence often abounding in typical Caradoc fossils—shells and trilobites. A little cliff on the river shows the spot where Salter determined that the lower beds of the Silurian here rest on the Trinucleus shales of the Upper Caradoc with marked unconformity. On the walk home the Tarannon beds were seen covered by the Wenlock shales from which the graptolites, characteristic of the age, may be found.

On Saturday, Sep. 11, the Mayor of Ludlow and Mrs Brooks entertained the members of the British Association now staying in Shropshire, and their own friends, at the Ludlow Museum, at 8.30. After the museum had been inspected, the leading geologists who are engaged on the

Shropshire tour gave a short account of the work. The Mayor introduced to the company Professor Lapworth, the conductor of the party, who gave a short address.—Professor Hughes, professor of geology at Cambridge, and Mr Watt followed.—After this Mr Hopkinson gave an account of a new set of fossils found in the district.—The Rev. Mr La Touche also spoke.—Mr Jasper More, M.P., in proposing a vote of thanks to the speaker and to the Mayor for carrying out his view of the British Association addressing audiences of the district, gave his reminiscences of Sir R. Murchison and Sir Roderick's connection with the Linley district, and expressed a hope that the gentlemen present would make a separate tour through the Cleve Hills, commencing at Bridgnorth, and would then address an audience of working men on a future occasion, and that the neighbourhood would become alive to the important attractions of the geology of the district to scientific men.—This was seconded by Miss Lydia Becker.—Professor Lapworth replied.—A vote of thanks was moved and seconded to the Mayor, who replied.—High encomiums were passed on the Ludlow Museum, and its early promoters, Mr Humphrey Salway, Mr Lightbody, and on its present curator, Mr Corking.—Many of the party drove back to Craven Arms afterwards.

On Monday, Sept. 13, the excursion left Ludlow and Craven Arms, at which the members had spent Sunday, for Linley, leaving Craven Arms at 8.55, for Lydham Heath, and arrived at the hall for breakfast at a quarter to ten. They were 24 in number, and, after examining the subjects of interest in the house and grounds, especially the trees, left after a few short speeches had been made, by the Linley drive, for the Mind, where a fossil bed was examined, and then for a neighbouring quarry, a well known bed of trilobites. Here, and before Shelve School, Professor Lapworth gave two short addresses on the geology of the district, pointing out that Corndon was a hill made of lava filling up the interstices of volcanic ashes; and that this district was being mapped out according to the fossils in the different rocks. He made six divisions of the rocks in this district, beginning with the Shelve, Ladywell, Meadow Town Division, both the two former being lead bearing. After this the graptolite bed below Shelve Church was examined, and after a large collection of the fossils of the different formations had been made, the party proceeded to the Roman Gravels mine by way of the old Roman workings, and the Murchison walk, so called to commemorate the last walk taken in the district by Sir R. Murchison. The party then had tea at the office of the Roman Gravels mine, after which a few speeches were made by Professors Lapworth and Hughes, Mr Hopkinson, and Mr De La Touche, and were replied to by Mr More, M.P., who congratulated them on the popularity of their science, as shown by the fact that 77 papers were read on geology at the late meeting of the British Association. He proposed a contest between the geologists and the mining captains, with the public as arbiters. He spoke of the bread thrown on the waters, by those who formerly established the Ludlow Museum, which had now been found after many days. The reply that they had given to the question that night might have been asked then. Can these dry bones live? He hoped they would speak to a popular audience at Ludlow on these matters before long. After this the party left in five carriages provided by the landlord of the Herbert Arms, Chirbury. Amongst those present were the Curator of the Museum at Glasgow, Professor Lapworth (the Professor of Geology at Cambridge), Mr Hughes, and Mr Watt (the Master of the Natural Science Department, Birmingham), Miss Lydia Becker, Mr Hopkinson, F.G.S., Miss Forster, Mr Houghton, Mr Archibald Little, Mr James Edmunds,

M.D. (London), Mr Charles Alford, Miss Emmeline Hunt, Mr C. F. Mitchell, Mr Peter Price (Cambrian Natural History Society, Cardiff), Mr Marshall and Mr A. Howell (Birmingham), Mr J. Krauss, Mr F. A. Bather (New College, Oxford), Mr C. Christie Cathcart, Captains Job and Mitchell (Snailbeach), Mr R. J. More, M.P., Rev J. F. and Miss Macleod, &c., &c. Tuesday, Sept. 14, was spent at the celebrated beds at Meadow Town, and Wednesday, Sept. 15, in the Corndon District, after which the party left for Lydham Heath and Ludlow, where they were entertained. A new geological map of South Shropshire, with a detailed account of the objects and results of this excursion will, it is said, be published by the Geological Society, London.

THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD.

TUESDAY (SEP. 14.)

The Royal National Eisteddfod was opened at Carnarvon on Tuesday morning, Sep. 14. An immense gathering attended the opening of the Gorsedd within the walls of the Castle, and excursion trains poured some thousands of visitors into the town. The Mayor and Corporation, the leading citizens, and prominent families of the neighbourhood attended the proceedings, at which an application was put in by Wrexham for a visit from the Eisteddfod in 1888. This application the Committee promised to consider.

The President of the day, Mr Bowen Rowlands, Q.C., M.P., was escorted to the pavilion from the Royal Hotel by the Mayor and members of the Corporation, and representatives of the Eisteddfod Committee. In his address, Mr Rowlands, after dwelling on the intellectual and utilitarian sides of the Eisteddfod, suggested that the future committees should take steps to initiate a collection of materials for a new history of Wales, should offer prizes for Welsh folk lore, encourage art and science in their elementary forms as a beginning, and take a wider view of the advancement of music. He concluded with an eloquent peroration, wherein he pictured the aspirations and hopes of the Wales of the future. The morning's proceedings included the awarding of ten guineas offered by the National Eisteddfod Association for the best Cywydd to the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, its first President, to Mr Robert Owen Hughes (Ellyn), Bangor; £20 for the best, most correct, and fullest genealogical account of the descendants of Bloddyn ap Cynfyn, Prince of Powis, and of Baron Owen of Dolgelley, to Miss Esther Lloyd Jones, Penmaenmawr. Ten guineas, given by the National Eisteddfod Association, for the best carved oak bardic chair was awarded to Mr J. Williams, Dolgelley; and £20 for the best cantata to Miss Williams, Beaumaris. The prize for harp playing was given to Mr A. Roberts, Newtown. Miss Parry of Birkenhead won the contralto solo. The Rev T. E. Roberts, Llanfrothen, was the successful competitor on the Welsh Handbook of Logic. Three choirs took part in the great choral competition, viz., Sheffield, Birkenhead, and Wrexham. The selected pieces were—"Lord our Redeemer" (Bach), "See what love hath the Father" (Mendelssohn); "Ardderchogwrwydd pob gogoniant" and "Amen" (Stephens). The adjudicators were Messrs Ebenezer Prout, John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia), J. H. Roberts (Pencerdd Gwynedd), and David Jenkins, Mus. Bac. The first prize of £100 was awarded to the Wrexham Philharmonic Society (conductor, the Rev. C. Hilton Stewart, precentor of Chester Cathedral); the second prize of £20 to the Birkenhead Choir (conductor, Mr D. O. Parry).

At the evening concert, when Mr Edmund Swetenham, Q.C., M.P., presided, the Lord Mayor of London was present, and the Wrexham Choir took part in the proceedings.

The Mayor and Corporation of Carnarvon went in procession at five o'clock to meet the Lord Mayor of London, who arrived with Mr Puleston, M.P., by the London train. At night a banquet was given in honour of the Lord Mayor's visit at the Sportsman Hotel.

WEDNESDAY (SEP. 15).

Beautiful weather prevailed on Wednesday. The streets of the town were thronged with visitors, brought in by special trains all day long, and at the Eisteddfod pavilion the attendance was large. The feature of the gathering, apart from the long list of adjudications, was the song, "Caro mio ben," sung in magnificent voice by Madame Patey. Madame Patey responded to the recall.

At nine o'clock in the morning the bards, ovates, and musicians assembled at Gorsedd, within the walls of the Castle. There was an unusually large concourse of spectators. Shortly before nine a procession was formed at the Guild-hall, the marshalls being Deputy-Chief Constable Davies and Captain R. R. Williams. It consisted of the band of the 4th Battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, the several companies of the Carnarvon Rifle Volunteers, the members of the battery of the Naval Reserve force at Carnarvon, the Mayor and members of the Carnarvon Town Council, the local lodges of the Order of Foresters and Oddfellows, the Carnarvon Fire Brigade, and others. The Lord Mayor of London, in his civic robes, was escorted to the Gorsedd by the Mayor of Carnarvon, and was received with warm cheers. Clwydfardd, the Chief Druid, again officiated. The Gorsedd having been opened, bardic addresses were delivered by Gwalchmai (Llandudno), Hwfa Mon, and other bards.—Mr J. H. Puleston, M.P., afterwards ascended the Gorsedd stone known as the "Maen Llog," and in the course of a Welsh speech said he thought it was the duty of all Welshmen to cultivate and preserve their grand old tongue, and wherever they were—whether in this country or abroad—they must never forget the old "iaith Gymraeg." (Cheers.)—The Arch Druid announced, amidst general applause, that the Lord Mayor was to be formally initiated into the "sacred circle" of the bards, and to be made an "ovate" by the name of "Gwyddon." Thereupon Morien, of Cardiff, ascended the "Maen Llog," and explained in English and Welsh that just as in old times the chief Welsh magistrate was a "Gwyddon" so the old dispensation had come round again, and that day they were about to find another chief magistrate of the kingdom once more a "Gwyddon." (Cheers.)—The Lord Mayor, amid great cheering, stepped on the "Maen Llog." He said—My kind friends,—I feel all the more interest in this honour which you are about to confer upon me, because in my early days I spent a great deal of my life near that most celebrated of all Druidical remains—Stonehenge. (Applause.) Little did I then think that I should have been brought into such close contact and association with Welsh Druidism as I have been to-day. I hope that with the help of the kind friends who have put me into this very important office—(laughter)—I shall be able to discharge its duties adequately, for I do greatly feel the honour you have done me. (Cheers.)—The Arch Druid and the Chief Bard of the Gorsedd (Hwfa Mon) then approached his lordship and whispered in his ear the secret of their sacred circle.—Following was an announcement by the Arch Druid of the fact that the bards present were about to initiate into the circle

another "ovate," viz., Mr E. Swetenham, Q.C., M.P., whose bardic name would be "Eryr Alyn," or the "Eagle of Alyn."—The hon. member for Carnarvon Boroughs mounted the stone, and, having been formally initiated into the circle, said—My dear friends,—Amongst all the honours that have been conferred upon me in the county of Carnarvon, I never once aspired to this one. (Laughter.) However, at last I have got it—(laughter)—and more, I mean to keep it. I should like to have returned thanks for this honour in Welsh, and I mean to try and do it. (Laughter.) I will do it in the Welsh used by the celebrated musician, John Parry, when he used to come down to Wales, and that is—"Un, dau, tri, pedwar." (Laughter.)—Mr Edward Hughes, Portdinorwig, was initiated a "bard," his nom de plume being "Menai fab." The degree of "cerddor," or musician, was conferred upon Mr Robert Williams, the bardic name being "Ap Eos y Berth." During the proceedings, which were of a very enthusiastic character, a Welsh address was delivered by Hwfa Mon, and the singing of Welsh pennillion took place, the harpist being Telynor Seiriol. Following the closing of the Gorsedd, the procession was reformed, and the Lord Mayor, who was accompanied in his carriage by the Mayor of Carnarvon, Mr Henry Richard, M.P., and Mr. J. H. Puleston, M.P., was escorted to the Pavilion.

MR. HENRY RICHARD, M.P., ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE.

There was a large attendance at the Pavilion, presided over by Mr Henry Richard, M.P., who was supported by the Lord Mayor, Mr J. H. Puleston, M.P., and a number of the Eisteddfod officials.—Mr Richard, in his opening address, delivered the first portion of his remarks in Welsh. He pointed out that the idea which some people had, that the Welsh language did not possess such superior qualities as other languages, was fallacious, and contended that the poetry of the Welsh furnished sufficient proof that its idiom was as expressive, and even more so, than other tongues. He was sure his generous English friends would not be surprised that his countrymen loved to hear the sound of their own language, which had for them many touching and thrilling associations connected with their intellectual, social, and religious life. (Hear, hear.) The tenacity with which the Welsh people had clung to their language, through ages of oppression and persecution, and in the face of persistent and strenuous efforts to drive or wean them from it, was a very remarkable, and, in his opinion, a very honourable trait in their character. (Applause.) There was hardly anything in history like it, and it was the more notable because among all the other branches of the Celtic race their language had disappeared, or was fast disappearing. The French were Celts and so were a portion of the Italians, but their languages had become thoroughly Latinised. Even in the British Isles the other Celtic races had lost or were losing their language. He believed the Manx language was entirely extinct in the Isle of Man, and Gaelic had very little vitality even in the Highlands of Scotland. What was more, so far as he could find out, there was not a single newspaper or periodical of any kind published in the Gaelic language. What was still more remarkable was that the Irish people, in spite of their passionate nationalism of feeling, had allowed their language to go. Two years ago there was an inquiry set on foot by the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland on that very point, and it was found that the number of people speaking the Irish tongue only was very small, and was constantly diminishing, having decreased from 163,000 in 1861 to 64,000 in 1881. There was not a solitary newspaper or periodical in

the Irish tongue, and he could not help contrasting that with the state of affairs which prevailed in Wales. They had no fewer than seventeen newspapers published in Welsh, besides twenty-five monthly magazines and five or six quarterlies. (Applause.) That would give them some idea of the extent of the Welsh literature, and in addition to that they must remember there was a continual flow of books on all subjects published in the Welsh language. Perhaps some of his English friends might not be aware of it, but it had been stated by an eminent Welsh publisher that the Welsh people spent at least £100,000 a year upon their literature. (Applause.) As to their religious services, he doubted whether in all their churches and chapels they would find 10 per cent. of them in which the English language only was employed in conducting the services. (Applause.) He stated these facts not for the benefit of his own countrymen, but for the sake of his English friends, because there still prevailed in England misconceptions of the state of things in Wales that were both amazing and amusing. They had been told in certain of the London journals that the Welsh literature consisted simply of sermons and a few local newspapers, and he had even heard it stated in the House of Commons that the Welsh people spoke several kinds of patois among themselves, so that if they came from different provinces of Wales they could not understand each other. (Laughter.) Others, again, allowed that it was a distinct language, but said it was only a sort of half barbarous idiom, with no form, rules, or grammatical construction. To show the falsity of this statement, he quoted a passage from the works of the accomplished historian, Mr Green, who gave it as his opinion that "no mediæval literature showed at its outset the same elaborate and complete organisation as the Welsh." (Applause.) There was another misconception on the part of their English neighbours in the idea that there existed in Wales a deep-rooted prejudice, amounting almost to hatred and hostility, against the English language, and that these Eisteddfod institutions were a kind of breakwater that had been erected in order to resist the incoming tide of Saxonism. It was impossible to conceive of anything more utterly at variance with the truth, for the truth was there existed among his countrymen an intense, almost passionate, desire to acquire the English language. (Applause.) A striking proof of that was that all day schools in Wales taught English and not Welsh, and, indeed, that was carried on, in his opinion, to an absurd extent. It was true the Welsh were attached to their mother tongue, and, what was more, he wished to tell his dear English friends that, with or without their leave, they meant to keep their Welsh tongue. (Loud applause.) They would do all they could to take possession of the English also, and to enter into competition with them in their own proper literature, and, on the other hand, he trusted the English in Wales would look into and study with more care the language, literature, and antiquities of the country they inhabited, and which, with perfect loyalty to their Queen, they loved with all their hearts. (Loud cheers.)—The President, at a later stage of the proceedings, introduced the Lord Mayor. He said they were in the highest degree gratified that his lordship had honoured them with his presence. They ought also to feel grateful to Mr Puleston, M.P., through whose influence the Lord Mayor had come to Carnarvon.—The Lord Mayor, who was heartily received, said he was very grateful to Mr Puleston for giving him the opportunity of receiving such an enthusiastic welcome as had been accorded to him since he arrived in the town of Carnarvon. When the question was put would he attend an Eisteddfod, he had to make some inquiry as to what an Eisteddfod was. He was glad he had been

called upon to do so, because the result of his inquiries had been a source of very great satisfaction to him. The reply he first received was that the Eisteddfod was an institution intended to encourage the study of music and literature, to preserve the Welsh language, and more especially to foster and cultivate patriotism. (Cheers.) It was very creditable to the Welsh people that the Eisteddfod had had so long a life. He was much gratified that morning, on attending the Gorsedd, to be shown the harp presented as a prize to a member of the faculty of music. It was a copy of the harp given by Queen Elizabeth at the last Eisteddfod held by Royal proclamation. They might ask why should the Lord Mayor of London make his appearance there at Carnarvon at an Eisteddfod. The answer was simply that the Lord Mayor of London represented in a metaphorical sense at that moment the citizens of London. (Cheers.) Among those citizens were large numbers of Welshmen. Wales did not hesitate to send many of the best of her sons to London, and he hoped she would always do. He would not dispute the President's praise of the Welsh language, but he hoped they would allow the English language to take a part in the education of the Welsh, because if the Welsh language were alone studied he was afraid that the number of good Welshmen who went to London would be very much diminished. He trusted that the two languages would continue to be studied side by side. (Cheers.) London owed a debt to three of her Welsh citizens for public work accomplished. Sir Hugh Myddleton, a Welshman, was Lord Mayor in 1613, and to his initiative the New River water scheme was due—a scheme which was afterwards carried out by his son—and gave to the citizens of London a pure water supply. Another eminent Welshman was Robert Heylin, High Sheriff, who caused the Bible to be printed in the Welsh language. (Cheers.) Once more he thanked them for the reception they had given to him. He was glad to have the honour of assisting in the celebration, and to hear it mentioned as likely that next year's Eisteddfod would be held in London. (Loud cheers.) He hoped that in London the Eisteddfod would secure all the success they desired, and which such an institution deserved.—As the Lord Mayor resumed his seat, Miss Morris, the child daughter of the hon. secretary of the Eisteddfod, attired in Welsh costume, was introduced by Mr Puleston, M.P., to his lordship, and presented him with a piece of Welsh tweed amid great cheering. His lordship kissed the child, and gave her his photograph. During the forenoon the Lord Mayor looked into the exhibition of art productions sent to the Eisteddfod for competition, and displayed in a room at the institution. His lordship accepted for the Lady Mayoress a shawl of Welsh wool, manufactured at the establishment of Messrs Jones, Evans and Co., Newtown. Eos Morlais having sung a Welsh song, "Gwlad y Delyn," the Arch-Druid read a bardic address complimentary to the President. Glanmor read the adjudication of Dyfed and himself on the English essays on the characteristics of Welsh poetry. The prize (£10) was presented by Lord Aberdare, and a silver medal given by the Committee of the Eisteddfod. The Rev T. Edwards, rector of Llanfihangel-y-Pennant, was declared the winner, and the prize was presented to him. For the best performance on the violin of an "Elegie" (Ernst) the prize was awarded to Master W. Benson of Wigan. The prize for the four "Hir a thoddad," entitled "Cymmydog" (neighbour), was awarded to Mr R. Meigant Jones, Carnarvon.—Miss Maggie Ivor Jones here gave a splendid rendition of Dr. Rogers' song, "A sailor's wife I'll be."—Mr J. H. Roberts, Mus. Bac., read the adjudication on the Welsh anthems, for which the prize of £7 and a silver medal was awarded to Mr James

Conway Brown, Farnham, Surrey.—For the tenor solo, "Deeper and deeper still" and "Waft her, Angels," the prize was taken by T. Howells, Swansea, Madame Patey giving the other two competitors a guinea each.—The prize for the best designs on mill board, of not less than six letters of different styles most suitable for a signboard, was divided between Mr R. Morgan, Carnarvon, and Mr R. Jones, Llandudno.—For the best translation of "Ti wyddost beth ddywed fy Nghalon," the prize was awarded to Mr Hugh Jerman, Llandidloes, Mont.—For the best specimen of plain needlework, the first prize was taken by Miss Margaret Ann Jones, Pontlloyd, South Wales, and the second by Miss Elizabeth Owen, Caerffynnon, Talysarnau. —Eos y Berth (Bethesda) won the prize for the pennillion singing.—A prize of £15 and a silver medal for the best original oil painting (figure subjects), illustrative of any event in Welsh history, was awarded to Mr W. Winter, Derby.—For the best collection of minerals and fossils found in Wales, classified and localised, the prize was awarded to Mr J. B. Morgan, Welshpool.—The winner of the prize for the best epigram to "The Explosion," who signed himself "Olefiant," did not answer to the name.—Madame Patey sang "Caro Mio Ben" and was encored.—A prize, value £3, for a harmonium competition, was awarded to Mr Griffith Jones, Penygroes. There were only two competitors.—The chief contest during the day was that for a prize of £25 for male choirs not under 40 and not over 60 in number. The selected pieces were (a) "Ah, with me" (Seigfried); (b) Scena, "Y Gof" (The Blacksmith), Welsh or English words. The adjudicators were Messrs D. Jenkins, E. Prout, John Thomas, and J. H. Roberts, with Mr Jenkins, composer of the Scena, as chairman. The competing choirs were the Festiniog Glee Society, the Glantawe (South Wales) Musical Society, and the Cynon (South Wales) Glee Society. The adjudicators gave their award to the Glantawe choir.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman, on the motion of the Mayor, seconded by the Rev. J. W. Wynne Jones.

There was a very full attendance at the evening concert, and a performance of "The Elijah" was given, the Bangor Choral Union supplying the chorus, with full orchestral band. The soprano part was taken by Miss Mary Davies, contralto by Madame Patey, tenor by Eos Morlais, and bass by Mr James Sauvage. Mr T. Lawson of Liverpool led, Dr Roland Rogers conducting.

Mr T. E. ELLIS, M.P., who presided, in briefly introducing the business, said—It was while contemplating such an audience as this that someone, with the characteristic Welsh turn for alliteration, exclaimed, "Môr o gân yw Cymru i gyd." This sea of song, which reaches its high-water mark in performances of great masterpieces like "The Elijah" has been fed from many streams. This Eisteddfod is the highest embodiment of that deep desire for popular culture which finds vent in the innumerable literary meetings held in the hamlets and towns of Wales. The performance of "Elijah" here to-night is rendered possible by the unceasing and unrecorded efforts of devoted lovers of music in the cottages and country sides of Wales, for music is the first faculty of the Welsh as of the Irish, and scarcely anything has such power over them. Our national melodies, with their subdued sorrow of baffled hope, enable us to enter the long and chequered past of Wales. Our religious tunes, set for the most part in the minor key, are more human—and have therefore greater influence—than the dogmas of our creeds, because they recognize and appeal to the undefinable sadness which encircles human life; while an oratorio like Elijah" inspires us to culti-

vate bolder strains, and teaches us as a people the possibility of greater effort and nobler achievement in the world of music and in the world of action. The victory of the strong man of God over the worshippers of Baal is not without its lesson to us in Wales. Many of us worship false gods and cry to them in vain for deliverance, while the prophet and teacher, whom we so much need, is biding his time and waiting for an opportunity to deal death to the shrine and prophets of Baal. But I will not keep you from this great oratorio which is infinitely greater than any constructions we can put upon it, or than any lessons which we may try to draw from it. (Cheers.)

THURSDAY.—CHAIR DAY.

Thursday was the Chair Day of the Eisteddfod. In anticipation of the ancient ceremony of "Chairing the Bard," the Eisteddfod Pavilion was more largely filled than on any previous day. The programme was a varied one, its most prominent feature next to the chairing of the bard being a choral competition for choirs of sixty voices for a first prize of £40 and a silver medal, and a second prize of twelve guineas.

At Gorsedd the Rev. W. Glanffrwd Thomas offered the Gorsedd prayer, the spectators repeating the sentences. Clwyfardd, Gwalchmai, and Hwfa Mon were appointed chief officials representing the original chiefs, Plenydd, Alawn, and Gwron. Mr Ebenezer Prout, the chief musical adjudicator, had the degree of ovate conferred upon him. Mr Prout thanked the bards for the honour done him.—Mr John Thomas, Queen's harpist, announced that henceforth Mr Prout would be known under the pseudonym of Eben Alaw, and he (the speaker) trusted that the next time Mr Prout came amongst them he would have the degree of Pencerdd (chief musician) conferred upon him. (Hear, hear.)—Mr Thomas Pierce, Pwllheli, graduated as a bard under the name of Mordaf, and Mr Richard Evans received a similar degree, his nom de plume being Carneddion. The following gentlemen graduated as ovates, and were invested with the riband of the order:—Mr Tudor Evans, (Ap Tudur), secretary of the Cardiff Eisteddfod; Mr W. Thomas (Cochfarf), Cardiff; and Alderman L. Lewis, Mayor of Carnarvon, who took the name of his house—Quellyn.—In thanking the company, Mr Lewis said he had done a little to promote the present and former Eisteddfodau at Carnarvon, and he trusted this one would prove as successful as its predecessors. (Hear, hear.)—Glanmor followed with an epigram complimentary to the Mayor's admission into the circle. Bardic addresses were then delivered by Ogwenydd, Dewi Glan Frydylas, Ieuan Ionawr, Alarch Gwyrfal, and Alltud Eifion. Pennillion singing having been given by Idris Vychan and Ehedydd Mon, the proceedings terminated. A procession then formed, headed by the Carnarvon Rifle Volunteer band, followed by the Royal Naval Reserve, the president of the morning meeting (Mr J. H. Puleston, M.P.), the Mayor, committee of the Eisteddfod, and the general public, and a move was made to the Eisteddfod Pavilion, where the proceedings began shortly after eleven o'clock.

Mr Puleston, in addressing the audience, said they were met, as their ancestors had met, to proclaim their undying love for music and poetry and song, and to encourage a closer and deeper study of all those questions which affected the progress of the age in which they lived. Previous speakers had alluded to the antiquity of the Eisteddfod. He would not presume to occupy so much of their time as it would take to trace back the origin of this ancient institution. The Druidical organisation of which they had the first historic record dated back to King Cadwaladr in 668, and as he then reformed it the Eisteddfod

must have existed long before. In the days of William the Conqueror the bards had a recognised legal position, and no one could become a bard without receiving the dignity in the Gorsedd, as several distinguished men had done this week. They should try to turn these gatherings to practical account. He was heart and soul with the Eisteddfod Association in urging that in Wales they should try to concentrate upon the annual Eisteddfod wherever held rather than weaken their forces by holding too many local ones. (Cheers.) If committees of the Eisteddfod were established all over the country, he thought sufficient interest could be awakened in the annual meeting to ensure its success. It should be the aim of every Welshman to strengthen the annual Eisteddfod as much as possible. It was satisfactory to know that the public at large had taken hold of this Eisteddfod, and that it was now carried on, while retaining its ancient characteristics, with a higher and nobler object. The march of progress was illustrated in the varying and useful character of the competitions. Eisteddfodau encouraged the study of music, poetry, and ancient literature. He could not too strongly urge the encouragement of the sectional meetings. He would also urge the creation of sectional societies for the study of geological and chemical science. There was no part of the United Kingdom more fruitful to the investigations of the geologist than their native Wales. Geology, too, was a subject most essential to their progress. He was glad to find that the Eisteddfod Committee encouraged local industries, as was shown by the competition arranged for slate splitting on Friday. Wherever there was found a local industry it should be encouraged. On the subject of emigration and the condition of the Welsh people in the colonies he would suggest that an essay be written, and that a prize of £200 be given for it, so that it might be made complete and exhaustive, and be a certain guide to those among their countrymen and countrywomen who wished to emigrate. As to their language, it was spoken more largely to-day than ever before, and he urged its cultivation side by side with the more important—for commercial purposes—study of English, which was becoming the business language of the world. (Cheers.)

The following adjudications were made:—The prize of £15 (given by Mr R. Pughe Jones, London), and a silver medal by the committee for the best Welsh essay upon the lives and talents of Owen Alaw, Tanymarian, and Brinley Richards, was awarded to Mr Griffith Jones (Glan Menai) Carnarvon.—The prize for the best soprano or tenor solo (recit and aria), on words selected from Scripture, was awarded to Miss A. J. Williams, Beaumaris.—The Pedal Harp Competition, "March of the Men of Harlech," arranged by Pencerdd Gwalia, proved one of the closest contests in the Eisteddfod. There were three youthful competitors—Thomas Thomas, Llanfair, Bult, a son of Eos y Berth, Bethesda, and a son of Mr Pierce, Treherbert, Glamorganshire. The adjudicator (Mr Thomas) said that if there had been any doubt as to the perpetuation of the use of the Welsh national instrument that doubt was set aside when they saw the competition, and youthful competitors displaying such extraordinary merit in that department of the music of Wales. He wished not only that there should be a prize for each player, but a scholarship. He awarded the prize to Thomas Thomas. He considered that the competition was of such exceptional merit that he would give each of the other competitors a guinea, and hoped that the example would be followed by others.—The President said that Mr Thomas had anticipated him, and added that he would make a similar contribution.—Gwilym Eryri stated that the prize offered for the

best "chain of twelve epigrams—to the Rock" was withheld, there being no merit in any of the compositions sent in.—Miss Marian Price sang "Cwynfan Prydain," and was encored.—Miss Annie Cantello, Haulfryn, Pwllheli, took the prize of a pair of statuettes, value £10 (given by Mr William Gillow, on behalf of the Torquay Terra Cotta Company), for the best oil or water colour painting of any subject on a twelve inch Hele Cross terra cotta plaque. There were four competitors.—In the competition in singing the soprano solo, "When this scene of trouble closes" (Spohr's "Calvary"), the prize, given by Mr W. Lloyd Griffith, was won by Llinos Rhondda, Treorky, Rhondda Valley. A supplemental prize, given by Capt. Pritchard Rayner, was awarded to Miss M. E. Roberts, Carnarvon.—The prize of a silver medal for the best specimen of Welsh flannel was withheld, the specimens sent being of insufficient merit.—Mr Thomas Price, High-street, Merthyr Tydfil, won the ten guinea prize for the best musical composition, "In Memoriam" of the late Lord Penrhyn.—Signor Foli here sang "Jack's Yarn," and upon being recalled gave "Father O'Flynn."—In the violin competition for the performance of "Sonatina," Op. 46, No. 1 (Dussek), limited to competitors under nine years of age, the prize was won by Master W. Percy Thomas, Ruthin.—For the best ornamental threefold screen, the prize was awarded to "Tynyrhelig," Newtown.—Pennillion singing by Idris Vychan and Ehedydd Mon.—The prize of £20 and a gold medal for the best English or Welsh essay on "Howel the Good and his Laws" was awarded to "Gwron," whose name was not known.—The great attraction of the day in a musical sense was the competition for choirs not under sixty voices in singing "Blow high, blow low" (J. H. Roberts), and "O snatch me swift from these tempestuous scenes" (Callcott). Two choirs entered for the competition, viz., those of Bagillt, conductor, Mr Evan Evans; and Oswestry Philharmonic Society, conductor Mr John Roberts. The adjudicators were Messrs J. H. Roberts (Pencerdd Gwynedd), Ebenezer Prout (Eben Alaw), D. Jenkins, Mus. Bac., and John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia). The adjudication was delivered by the first-named of these gentlemen, who stated that the Bagillt Choir lacked quality of tone and balance, which made their singing uneven and unequal. The Oswestry Choir, on the contrary, was a well-balanced one, the quality and tone was better, and the rendering of the pieces throughout was much superior, and they were unanimously of opinion that this choir was fully worthy of the first prize of £40, and silver medal. The conductor was invested, amidst loud applause, by Mrs John Davies of Liverpool. The second prize of £12 12s was given to the Bagillt Choir.—The prize of £10, and a silver medal, for the best original water-colour drawing—"A Landscape in Wales," was awarded to Mr George Harrison, Ty Gwyn, Bettws-y-coed.

The conductor (Ilew Llwyfo) then announced that the Rev. R. Parry (Gwalchmai) would read the adjudication of Elis Wyn o' Wyrfa, Gwilym Eryri, and himself upon the odes which had been sent in for the prize of £20 (guaranteed by the commercial travellers of North Wales) and the bardic chair of carved oak. The venerable Gwalchmai stated that fifteen odes had been received, and the adjudicators were unanimous in their decision. The odes had received grave and careful consideration, and had been divided into three divisions. The third division contained certain merits, but lacked the greater experience which was found in those included in class 2. In that class there were more true thought and sentiment; they showed more hopeful signs for the future, and their authors

would, if they studied, live in the literature of their country. In the first division, the odes sent in by Hyder, Afaon, Bunyan, Dyfnwal, and Grey, were most meritorious, Grey's production being a poetical picture worthy of the true muse. The adjudicators were glad to say that the demerits of the ode were outweighed by its merits, and to such a degree as to make its faults disappear. "Grey," therefore, would have the highest honours bestowed by the Eisteddfod, viz., that of sitting in the bardic chair of 1886. The announcement was received with great cheering. "Grey" was called upon to show himself, and it was ascertained that he was Mr Richard Davies (Tafolog), Glandwr, Llanidloes-road, Newtown. He was escorted to the platform by Hwfa Mon and Gwilym Eryri, and subsequently chaired with the quaint ceremonial usual on such occasions. Miss Mary Davies sang "Can y Bencerddes" (song of the Chief Songstress), and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the president.

At the evening concert, when the Hon. G. T. Kenyon, M.P., presided, the Oswestry Choir sang Dr Callcott's piece with much effect, and were warmly applauded. The chief items were contributed by Miss Mary Davies, Mr John Thomas, Eos Morlais, Signor Foli, and Miss Marian Price, Miss Maggie Ivor Jones, and Mr Maldwyn Humphreys.

NEXT YEAR'S EISTEDDFOD.

The list of subjects and prizes for next year's Eisteddfod, which is to be held in London, were published on Thursday. The Executive Committee includes amongst its members Mr J. H. Puleston, M.P., chairman; Alderman David Evans, Mr Morgan Lloyd, Q.C., and Mr Lewis Morris, M.A., vice-chairmen; Alderman D. Evans and Mr L. H. Roberts, treasurers. Working Committee:—Mr Stephen Evans, chairman; Dr. Isambard Owen, M.A., and Mr T. Marchant Williams, B.A., vice-chairmen. The Literary Committee will have for its president Mr Lewis Morris, and Mr R. Roberts, B.A., vice-chairman. Musical Committee:—Mr John Thomas, the Royal harpist, chairman; and Miss Mary Davies, vice-president. Science and Art Committee:—Mr W. Cave Thomas, F.S.S., and Mr John Williams, M.D., chairman and vice-chairman respectively. Finance Committee:—Alderman D. Evans, chairman; and Mr. L. H. Roberts, vice-chairman.

FRIDAY.

Brilliant weather prevailed on the concluding day of the Royal National Eisteddfod on Friday. Attracted by the fine weather and the Eisteddfod programme, large numbers of visitors came to the town. The Rev. W. Glanffrd Thomas conducted at the morning meeting. The Gorsedd was held in the Castle, and there was a strong muster of bards and musicians. The procession, which included the members of the Naval Reserve, under the direction of Mr Holmes, was marshalled by Commander R. R. Williams and Deputy-Chief Constable C. Davies. Clwydfardd again officiated as chief bard, and the Eisteddfod prayer was offered by the Rev. Glanffrd Thomas. Hwfa Mon proposed a resolution expressing the opinion of the "Bards of the Isle of Britain assembled in Gorsedd" that a new and revised system of Welsh orthography was desirable. At present there was no uniformity, and so competing bards generally suffered at the hands of those adjudicators who adhered to the old-fashioned style of spelling certain Welsh words.—The Rev. E. Herber Evans, who seconded the proposal, advised the adoption of the orthography of the Welsh Bible.—The proposal was carried unanimously.—The initiation of bards and ovates was proceeded with, Captain Pritchard Rayner,

Trescawen, Anglesey, being admitted by Hwfa Mon to the latter degree under the title of "Ysgawen," the Welsh name of the family seat. The Rev. W. Morgan, vice-principal of the Carnarvon Training College, and Mr R. M. Jones (Meigant) were also admitted, as were the Rev. E. Herber Evans (Herber) and Mr H. H. Meyer of Torquay, an adjudicator in the art section. Amidst much cheering and laughter, Mr S. Smith, M.P., responded to an invitation to become a Druid under the name of "Samuel," and was duly invested by Hwfa Mon. In acknowledging the honour, the newly-created Druid said that his present position was one of the most remarkable he had yet occupied, for he had suddenly become—as he understood it—a responsible member of the ancient congregation of Welsh bards. He trusted that some of the genius of the Welsh bards might descend upon him and give him a little inspiration, so as to become more identified than ever with the hopes, aims, and expectations of the people of Wales. (Cheers.) Col. Ruck, chief constable of Carnarvonshire, having been initiated an ovate under the title of "Meirionnydd," taken from his native county of Merioneth, the Gorsedd was closed, the procession, headed by the Penrhyn Brass Band, proceeding to the Eisteddfod Pavilion.

Mr SAMUEL SMITH, M.P., who was warmly cheered on rising to address the pavilion meeting, said the Eisteddfod in Wales corresponded with the Olympic games of ancient Greece. It was the great national rendezvous—the focus of their national life. It somewhat resembled, to use another analogy, the annual gathering of the Jewish tribes at Jerusalem at the passover feast. There they kept alive their national traditions, their ancient language, and their literature and poetry. They revived all that was most worthy and great in the past history of their country. Though not possessing Celtic blood himself, and perhaps not much of their ardent temperament, he could sympathise very much in the reforming influence of festivals of this kind. They differed from the English in possessing in a much larger degree the gifts of poetry and music. They more resembled the ancient Greeks, who gave the first place in education to these arts, and, he thought, wisely. He was afraid that the English, like all Anglo-Saxons, were too materialistic and too matter-of-fact for poetry. He feared they must admit that in all Anglo-Saxon countries the heyday of poetry had passed away. The hurry and bustle and intensely commercial spirit of modern life had tended to this. It left little time for imagination, and without imagination poetry waxed poor and feeble. He feared they must allow that the progress of the exact sciences had done much to destroy the material out of which poetry grew. Poetry had its rise in the borderland which lay between fact and fiction, and modern science had pretty well destroyed the faculty of wonder in the human mind. He might add that the Saxon races lacked imagination as compared with the Celtic, and it was a good thing that in one corner of the United Kingdom there still existed a people possessed of imagination and protesting against the materialising tendencies of the age. (Hear, hear.) He feared, except in some country like Wales, the Iliad and the Odyssey had passed for ever, and he feared that no civilised nation would again produce Spencer's "Faery Queen" or "Paradise Lost." He did not consider what we called civilisation a pure gain. He feared it brought with it considerable loss as well as gain. It cut up by the roots many of the purer and simpler pleasures of life. It tended to produce a cold and passionless culture. A familiar thing in all great English cities was the spectacle of men of culture who seem to have lost all power of enthusiasm and all belief in nobleness of conception and aim,

He was glad to see that Wales had not yet come under the baleful influence of such culture, but lived in a more productive and natural atmosphere. They still nourished a simpler and a purer life, and like the people in all mountainous countries they still possessed a fervid patriotism and preserved in song its old traditions and the recollections of the past. He considered this one of the best inheritances any people could have. He regretted that in England what he might call the national poetry had pretty well died out. Than poetry there were few things which could raise a man to greater effort. One thing he admired in the poetry of Wales was its close connection with religion. (Hear, hear.) These two things ought never to be divorced. Indeed he would go so far as to say that where the religious faculty had died out, where a belief in the unseen and eternal had become feeble, the faculty of poetry was well nigh extinct. (Hear, hear.) There was no book so full of true poetry as the Bible. The Bible had been the great educator of Wales, and he hoped they would take good care in their educational schemes, with which the air was thick, that the Bible was not pushed aside from its proper place. (Hear, hear.) There was a strong undercurrent of opposition in the present day to anything that savoured of religious teaching in schools. Under the name of equality and liberty it was sought to secularize education. He trusted that in Wales they would never listen to this Siren voice. It had been his good fortune to read within the past few days Mr Matthew Arnold's report upon the educational systems of Germany, France, and Switzerland, and he had been very much impressed by what he stated as the fact. Among the German people the Bible and sacred poetry were taught in the national schools. Such teaching was universal, and it exercised a wonderfully humanising and elevating influence upon the children of the Fatherland. In France he found the exclusion of any reference to the Godhead, and only a feeble morality inculcated without reference to the divine law, and he was painfully impressed by the contrast. Might we not fairly infer that among the causes which had raised Germany to supremacy on the Continent one was a wide inculcation of the religious principle in the schools of the country. (Hear, hear.) In such a subject as this neutrality was impossible. A State system which excluded the very idea of a God, which refused to permit that sacred name to be mentioned in the schools—such a system naturally became atheistic in its tendencies, and one of the means that could be used for the degradation of a people. He trusted that in the various discussions going on in the country, as to the best means of improving education, they would take care that in their struggles for religious equality they did not throw religion overboard altogether. (Cheers.) Mr Smith, at a later stage of the proceedings, on being asked to fill up a few minutes' interval in the programme, referred to the question of intermediate education in Wales, to which he gave his warm support. He thought Mr Mundella's scheme seemed to contain the principles of a successful measure. They had in Wales three excellent colleges, and he hoped that they would be able to cover Wales with a belt of intermediate schools. (Cheers.)

The following adjudications were made:—The prize of £3 3s for the best satirical poem—subject, "The Masher on a Summer Tour"—was won by the conductor (the Rev W. Glanffrd Thomas), who was invested by the President. There were nineteen competitors.—Mr D. D. Roberts, Twthill, Carnarvon, was awarded the prize of two guineas and a silver medal for the best variety of slate ornaments suitable as souvenirs.—The prize of a silver medal (given by Mr David Richards, Hirwaen) for the best photographic landscape taken from nature (open only to

professional photographers in the United Kingdom), was awarded to Mr Chaplin, of Swansea.—Mr J. E. Thomas, C.E., Wrexham, received the prize of five guineas and a silver medal for the best Welsh or English essay on the rocks and stones of Carnarvonshire, with specimens and notes.—Mr John Owen (Ehedydd Mon) took the award for pennillion singing.—In the next competition, for the best glee, for which a prize of £5 and a silver medal was offered, five glees were sent in, but no one deserved the prize, which was consequently withheld.—Thirty competitors entered the contest in singing the bass solo (recit. and aria), "Behold, the day of the Lord" (Dr. Parry). At a preliminary examination the number was reduced to four, who sang at the Pavilion subsequently. The prize was awarded to Mr Bennett Williams, Portmadoc; and a supplemental premium of two guineas, the gift of Signor Foli, was given to Mr John Williams, Mountain Ash, Glamorganshire.—In the pianoforte competition, restricted to competitors under fourteen years of age, the best piece was Rondo in C (Beethoven). Out of a large number of competitors, four were selected to play; and Mr Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia), in delivering the adjudication, said that each of the youthful players had displayed a remarkable musical talent. The prize of £2 was awarded to Miss M. M. Jones, Carnarvon; a second prize being given to Miss Millie Richards, Birkenhead.—Miss Mary Davies here sang an old Welsh song called "Hiraeth," and upon being enthusiastically encored, sang another air.—A ceremony of considerable interest followed, i.e., the crowning of the author of the best epic poem (arwrgerdd) entitled, "Constantine the Great." The premium offered for the best poem was £20 and a silver crown. Eight poems had been sent in, and the adjudicators unanimously awarded the prize to one which bore the signature of "Caradoc ap Bran." The bard bearing that name was asked to stand, and Clwydfardd and Hwfa Môn left the platform to fetch him. He was escorted to the platform, and on arriving there he proved to be the Rev. J. Cadvan Davies, Wesleyan minister, Aberffraw, Anglesey, known by the nom de plume of "Cadvan." The ceremony of crowning him was gone through by the Arch Druid (Clwydfardd) and Hwfa Môn. He was then placed in the Eisteddfod bardic chair, and invested by Miss Craddas, Netherwarden Rectory, Northumberland. Several of the bards who assisted at the ceremony read complimentary bardic addresses, and Hwfa Môn delivered a stirring Welsh speech, in which he said that the Committee of the Carnarvon National Eisteddfod deserved the thanks of all patriotic Welshmen for the hearty manner in which they furthered the interest of the national festival of 1886. (Applause.)—Clwydfardd here announced that the National Eisteddfod of 1888 would be held at Wrexham.—There were no entries for the prize of £1 1s and a silver medal (given by Mr J. R. Hughes, Brondyre, Carnarvon), for the best plain slate chimney-piece.—Signor Foli sang an Italian song with fine effect.—In the band contest, the piece to be performed being a selection from "Rigoletto" (Verdi—Wright and Round), a prize of £20 and a gold medal was offered. Three brass bands entered—viz., Festiniog, Nantlle Vale, and Irwell, Manchester. There was a spirited competition. In declaring the adjudication, Mr Prout said the judges had experienced no little difficulty in arriving at a decision, each of the bands having played remarkably well. Mr Prout declared the winners of the prize to be the Nantlle Vale Brass Band—an announcement which was received with loud cheers. Mr Hartzman, conductor of the successful band, was invested by Mrs Thomas, Brynymor, Carnarvon.—The slate splitting competition followed. The entries numbered close upon 300, and 163 quarrymen made their

appearance on the field adjoining the Pavilion, each bringing his blocks of slate. In class 1, first, second, and third prizes of £7, £5, and £3 respectively were offered to the three men who would best cut, split, and dress a block into the greatest number of slates of a certain length within a certain time. Out of ninety-six competitors the winners were:—1, W. Griffith, Dorothea Quarry, Talsarn; 2, Trevor O. Lewis, Dorothea Quarry; 3, G. T. Jones, Garregfawr Quarry. The second-class competition was the splitting into the greatest number of slates of a block two inches thick in a time allowance of ten minutes. Out of thirty-six competitors the first was J. M. Jones, Piston-terrace, Festiniog; second, J. Lloyd, Cilgwyn Quarry; third, G. T. Jones, Garregfawr, Dorothea. Thirty-one youths under eighteen years of age competed in splitting and dressing into the greatest number of slates a block of given size. The winners were:—First, H. Henderson; second, R. E. Parry, Dorothea, Penygroes; third, W. H. Williams. The adjudicators were Messrs J. J. Evans, Brynderwen, T. Jones, Lower Victoria, Llanberis, Pierce Williams, Waenfawr, O. T. Owen, Nantlle, and E. P. Jones, Diphwys Casson.—Dr. R. Roberts, Isallt, Blaenau Festiniog, was declared the winner of the prize epigram, entitled "The Colliery Explosion."

In the unavoidable absence of Sir Llewelyn Turner, the Rev J. W. Wynne Jones, the chairman of the Eisteddfod Committee, presided over the evening concert, which was largely attended. Haydn's "Creation" was performed, an excellent chorus being supplied by the Carnarvon Choral Society, admirably conducted by Mr John Williams, organist of Christ Church, Carnarvon. The artistes were Miss Mary Davies, Eos Morlais, and Signor Foli. Mr J. W. Collinson led the orchestra.

It is gratifying to find that, notwithstanding commercial depression of the trade in the district, the Eisteddfod was a financial success. The receipts, including subscriptions, amount to nearly £2,000, but it is feared the surplus will not exceed £100.

The secretaries of the London National Eisteddfod of 1887 are Messrs E. Vincent Evans and W. E. Davies, London, who have manifested the greatest interest in Welsh literary matters.

The Lord Mayor of London, in forwarding his portrait to the Mayor of Carnarvon (Alderman Lewis), writes:—"Let me express my warmest thanks for the cordial and courteous reception given to me by yourself and your friends at Carnarvon. My visit to your ancient borough will be one of the bright spots in my year of office."

THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD ASSOCIATION.

The first meeting of the National Eisteddfod Association was held at the Institute, Carnarvon, on Tuesday afternoon, September 14, under the presidency of Clwydfardd. A deputation from Wrexham, consisting of the Mayor (Mr. Samuels), Mr. E. Swetenham, M.P., Q.C., Professor Oliver, Mr. S. Jones, and Mr W. A. Bayley, attended for the purpose of supporting a petition in favor of holding the Eisteddfod of 1888 at Wrexham. Mr E. Vincent Evans, secretary of the Association, read the requisition from the inhabitants of the town and district, signed, amongst others, by the Duke of Westminster, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Mr Benjamin Piercy, Mr Samuels (mayor), &c., and after hearing what the deputation had to say in its favor, it was resolved to recommend to the Gorsedd that Wrexham be selected for the eisteddfod of 1888. Mr. W. E. Davies, on behalf of the committee of the London Eisteddfod of 1887, submitted a proposed list of subjects and prizes; which were accepted subject to a few unimportant alterations.

The subject of the awdl will be "Y Frenhines;" that of the pryddist "John Penry." The chief essays

are a "History of Wales under Queen Victoria," and a "Critical estimate of Welsh poetry during the eighteenth century." The chief choral competition will be on the following pieces:—"I wrestle and pray" (Bach), "Wretched Lovers" (Handel), and "Come with torches" (Mendelssohn).

The annual meeting of the Association was held on Thursday afternoon. The annual report, which was read by Mr T. Marchant Williams, the hon. secretary, expressed regret at the decease of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, the first president, whose place had been filled by the Marquis of Bute, who had taken a very practical interest in the work of the Association, having offered a prize of £50, which he afterwards doubled, for a translation of the Alcestes of Euripides. His lordship had also undertaken to publish the two successful translations, together with the original at his own cost, and generously offered to give a free copy to each member of the Association. In addition, his lordship was also an annual subscriber of ten guineas to the funds of the Association. The list of vice-presidents had been revised, and included the addition of Lord Mostyn, Sir George Elliott, Bart., M.P., Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., Sir A. Stepney, Bart., Sir W. T. Lewis, Aberdare, and all the members of Parliament, with one exception, for North Wales, and most of the South Wales members. Last year, the Liverpool Committee having published the transactions of the Eisteddfod, for which the Association was much indebted to the co-operation of Mr W. R. Owen, the editor, and Mr Isaac Foulkes, the publisher of the transactions, handed over the surplus of £40, remaining in their hands, to the Association. The Committee of the Aberdare Eisteddfod of last year worked most harmoniously with the Council of the Association, and a very successful meeting was held. Unfortunately some delay took place in winding up matters, but within the last week the Association had received the balance of £146 3s. 6d., which was in the hands of the Committee. The compositions had not yet reached the Association, but as soon as they did, the publication of the transactions would be proceeded with without delay. The Carnarvon Committee, at a meeting held in March, when Clwydfardd, Mr Puleston, M.P., and Mr W. E. Davies attended as a deputation on behalf of the Association, undertook to hand over any surplus they might have for the benefit of future Eisteddfodau. The Association had been able to do some slight service to the Carnarvon Eisteddfod, more especially in bringing about, through the instrumentality of Mr Puleston, M.P., the visit of the Lord Mayor of London. The London Eisteddfod Committee had undertaken to be guided and instructed by the Association, which had determined upon offering several prizes. From the London Eisteddfod it was confidently anticipated that there would be a large surplus, which, it was hoped, would form the nucleus of a fund for the benefit of future Eisteddfodau. The publications issued last year by the Association included a work by Gweirydd ap Rhys, and the biography of the late Sir Hugh Owen. Financially, the Association was flourishing, there being in hand a balance of £262 19s. 4d., which would go towards the publication of the transactions of that Eisteddfod.

The report was unanimously adopted, and the officers and committee for the ensuing year elected.

THE CYMMRODORION SECTION.

RACE AND NATIONALITY.

The meetings of the Cymmrodorion Section, held in connection with the recent Eisteddfod at Carnarvon, were more successful than anything of the kind hitherto held in North Wales. The papers read at the meetings had a

national interest, and, I am glad to say, attracted intelligent audiences and considerably raised the tone of the Eisteddfod. The Rev J. W. Wynne Jones, M.A., the vicar of Carnarvon, who presided at the inaugural meeting on Monday evening, September 13, when Dr Isambard Owen, M.A., delivered an address on "Race and Nationality" somewhat missed the point in his opening remarks on the Welsh language. The feeling of the meeting generally was intensely national, and although Welshmen have to a great extent given up villifying the Saxon and abusing his language, it is none the less true that the national sentiment of the Welsh people is as warm and as intense as ever it was.

Dr. ISAMBARD OWEN said that among the books which, in old-fashioned phrase, "should be in every gentleman's library," might, he thought, be reckoned the volume of bardic tradition which the Welsh Manuscript Society published in 1834 under the name of "Barddas," and this not merely on historical or antiquarian grounds, but from the interest of its contents, which abound in sagacious maxims and pithy expressions of wisdom. When the Society of the Cymmrodorion did him the honour to ask him to open its series of meetings for 1886, it was to his copy of Barddas that he instinctively turned for a text, and on opening the book his eye fell on a series of questions constituting the commencement of a bardic catechism, which, in Ab Ithel's English rendering, ran as follows:—"Who art thou, and tell me thy history? Whence didst thou proceed, and what is thy beginning? Where art thou, and how camest thou to where thou art?" Here, he thought, was wisdom greater even than that of the sage who proclaimed "Know thyself" to be the primary maxim of life. If Greece revered the author of that famous aphorism, should not Wales give its tribute of admiration to the unknown bard who set these pregnant questions to guard the door of the temple of knowledge? If they might read these bardic questions in a more mundane light than that in which they were originally intended, it must be confessed that in one respect they had sadly neglected their wise instructor's lesson. The history of the Welsh people had become an almost forgotten study among its members. He (Dr Owen) did not know if in a single school in all Wales instruction in it was at that day given. That surely should not be the case. It might be said that their history was neither very illustrious nor very important. True it was that independent Wales founded no empire and developed no political institutions. Empire and policy were not the all in all of life. (Hear, hear.) If history be taken in the modern sense, as the story of a people and not that of its rulers, the history of the Welsh is devoid neither of interest nor of instruction. (Hear, hear.) That two waves of population, speaking variations of the so-called Celtic form of the common Aryan tongue of Western Europe, had at different periods passed across the face of Britain, the evidence of language left no doubt; but the island was not a desert when those waves approached its shores, and at least one race settled here at a long antecedent date had borne a part, it was now acknowledged, in forming their present complex stock. Following Professor Ray, they might distinguish the first Aryan-speaking wave, whose language had evolved the Erse, the Manx, and the Gaelic, by the name of Goidels, and apply that of Brythons to the second—the Britons properly so-called, who introduced a dialect allied to the Goidelic, but since widely divergent from it, and now represented by the modern Welsh. Having referred at great length to the history of the Goidels and Brythons, the speaker said that if they sought to define their racial position within the British Islands one thing at

least was clear—that it was an intermediate one. The older elements of the population connected them, on the one hand, with the Goidelic, or Goidelised Irishman and Gael, while their dominant Brythonic element bade them look for their nearest cousins in the neighbouring counties of England—in Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall, in North Lancashire, Westmoreland, and Cumberland (as far as Cumberland is not Danish), and in the Western Lowlands of Scotland—parts from which the Brythonic-speaking population was never largely displaced, and to some of which it had since largely returned. It was to be hoped that the systematic study of contemporary types which had been set on foot would one day throw light on that as on many other dark places in British ethnology. At present it would be idle to dogmatise, but it was, at all events, not improbable that the average Welshman was if anything racially nearer to the average Englishman or Lowland Scotchman of the present day than to the average Irishman or Gael. A great idea, a great principle of conduct, be it social, religious, or political, was, he held, the only nucleus on which a true nationality could concentrate. It was the common faith in the common possession of such ideas that could bind man to man, as Englishman was bound to Englishman, Scotchman to Scotchman, Welshman to Welshman, and create the organic unity they termed a nationality out of the atoms of human life. The old Cymric State, in the days of Cadwallon, had its idea, to which it was enthusiastically devoted. The retention of "Unbenaeth Prydain"—the monarchy of Britain—in Cymric hands was its cherished aim—the bond of union between its component parts. With the breaking up of the Cymric State, the monarchy passed hopelessly into other hands, the bond was shattered, the idea was a memory of the past, and the budding nationality died. They passed over a period of four hundred years, from the death of Cadwaladr to the end of the eleventh century, when time had again a new birth to bring forth, and the modern Welsh nationality came into being. Having reviewed the history of the Welsh people during those four hundred years, the speaker said that before the eleventh century closed they perceived unequivocal signs of Welsh nationality. The bard was abroad in the land, and Gruffydd ab Cynan was holding an Eisteddfod at Caerwys. It was, he maintained, by examining closely the Eisteddfod, which from that day had been the especial symbol of Welsh nationality, and the certain gauge of its vitality, that they should obtain the clearest conception of the ideas which inspired its formation. Should they not recognise in the proceedings of the present week a visible witness that here in Wales they had a people, in the wide sense of the term, bent towards mental cultivation, capable of appreciating the pleasures of the critic and the artist, penetrated by the conviction that intellectual exercise is a source of happiness in itself as well as a means of material advancement, and that culture is not the exclusive privilege of a class, but a blessing to be freely enjoyed by all. If, in the light of those thoughts, they turned to the Wales of the 12th and 13th centuries, they should find themselves in no unfamiliar land. The same idea, though more rudely expressed, animated the people of that time. Drawing life from such a source as this, the Cymry managed ere long to stem, and even to roll back, the tide of Norman conquest, and sustained for two centuries more the unending defensive war which the encroachments of their powerful suzerains forced upon them. Having dealt with the conquest of Wales, the speaker referred to the singular fate by which the inheritance of the Plantagenet throne came to be vested in the grandson of a Welsh squire. To the gallant Welshman who fought for Henry Tudor, his landing was more than a renewal of the

contest between the Red Rose and the White. The Welsh people saw in him the man who was to free them from subjection and restore the ancient honour of the Cymric name. It was unfortunate that the brightness of the new era then dawning for Wales should have been dimmed by a mistaken, though well-meant, piece of policy embodied in the very act which was intended to open it—viz., the order for the use of the English language alone in all courts of justice, and the enacting of the penalty of disability for public offices against all who adhered to the ancient Cymric speech. They need not blame Henry VIII. and his advisers, English or Welsh, for this. They acted according to their lights, seeing the grave practical inconvenience of two languages in a single realm; they knew, perhaps, that parts of Britain had already changed their tongue. But they did not see—many yet do not even see—that to replace a primitive unlettered dialect was no measure of the task of uprooting a language that had been the medium of a literature and the expression of a national idea, and wound itself around a national heart. (Hear, hear.) To make matters worse, the means of instruction were almost wanting in the country. The troubles of the later Plantagenet periods had left Wales ill-provided with schools. The evils which were to be attributed to such an unsuccessful piece of legislation were neither few nor small, and the national character had been a sufferer. Such a system must have induced a depressing sense of helplessness and inferiority in the people, and to allow a spirit of self-distrust to undermine the sturdy independence of the ancient Cymry. (Hear, hear.) In their very success, as far as they did succeed, he believed these enactments to have been as disastrous as in their failure. The few whose circumstances gave them the means of acquiring the English tongue came, he feared, little by little to neglect the cultivation of the older language, to regard it in the light of a rustic dialect, to transfer the idea of disparagement from the language to the persons of those who spoke it, and to estrange themselves and their descendants from the current of national life, which still flowed, though silently, among their humbler neighbours. In the revival of Welsh nationality which has marked the present century, the successors of the ancient leaders were not those who had led. It was the unassuming figures of parish clergymen, ministers, burghers, and scholars, and men of toil that rose before them as they recalled the architects of the restored national temple, from the authors of the *Myvyrian Archaeology* to the Father of Higher Education in Wales. (Applause.) Voluntary popular agency had been conspicuous in all the movements that had lifted the land out of the state of intellectual neglect and destitution into which it had sunk in the Georgian era. It was voluntary agency that organised the first supply of sadly-needed schools; that supplemented the shortcomings of the system that superseded them by the peculiar institution of the Welsh Sunday school; that covered the land, as few lands are covered, with the means of religious worship. The people at large supported Sir Hugh Owen in the matter of higher education, and the popular efforts which revived and which had since continued to maintain the celebration of the national Eisteddfod. (Applause.) Wales, if true to its national idea, had a future before it; but there was a barrier, which the united efforts of its sons were needed to remove—the grave defects of the national system of education. (Hear, hear.) Behind the matter of elementary education loomed the more formidable question of intermediate schools. Beset with difficulties as the question was, Welshmen must grapple resolutely with it, for it could not but be the question of questions for the future of their country. (Applause.) Mental training was the life-blood of the

Welsh nation. The Welshman's intellectual capacities were his fighting arm. In conclusion, the speaker said that as long as the present state of things existed, the Welsh people must be content to take an inferior place. The question was one of life and death for the country, and should be attacked with the conviction that national life or national death depended upon the finding or missing a solution. (Loud cheers.)

THE UTILIZATION OF THE WELSH LANGUAGE.

Tuesday morning's meeting (Sep. 14) was entirely occupied with the oft-discussed question of the Utilization of the Welsh Language in Education.—The Rev. E. Herber Evans, the popular ex-president of the Welsh Congregational Union, as chairman of the meeting, emphasized the increased attention paid to the language, and advanced strong reasons for believing in its perpetuation.—A long and elaborate paper on the subject was read by Mr Ellis Jones Griffith, M.A., of Downing College, Cambridge, one of the representatives of Young Wales, of whom more will be heard in the near future.—The Rev. Evan Jones of Carnarvon, Mr Thos. E. Ellis, M.P., Professor T. F. Roberts, B.A., of Cardiff University, and Mr Beriah Evans, the hard working secretary of the S.U.W.L., advanced further arguments in support of the use of the Welsh language as a vehicle for instruction in schools in the Principality.

THE HIGHER EDUCATION OF GIRLS.

Wednesday's meeting (Sep. 15) was essentially a "ladies' meeting." The subject for discussion was the Higher Education of Girls in Wales.—The opening paper was contributed by Miss Dilys Ll. Davies of London, sister of the well-known cantatrice, Miss Mary Davies, and herself an educationist of sound standing in the Metropolis.

Mrs Verney, who had been announced to read a paper, wrote a letter of apology, in which she said that the newspapers lately showed that the doctors had been crying down higher education for women, as if it were synonymous with overwork and bad health, and, therefore, unfitted them to be wives and mothers. That idea was enough to wreck any scheme, and should be strongly combatted. Cramping was not educating—not feeding, but choking—and those who spoke of the higher education of women were not thinking of cramping. Physical training was necessary, as girls took no exercise; they strolled round the garden reading a novel, whilst boys played cricket. The first work of the association should be to form committees in each district, and to appoint an executive to draw up a set of questions and have papers printed, in order to give local committees lines to work upon. (Hear, hear.)

Miss DILYS LL. DAVIES, in her paper, said—The term "higher education" was taken to be synonymous with over-pressure and forced mental activity, accompanied by an undue strain upon brain and nerve. This idea was not true education. (Hear, hear.) A complete education must aim at a symmetrical development of the whole, not be exaggerated, and must have for its object the most complete development of the highest powers of body, mind, and soul. (Hear, hear.) It was to be deplored that too often one side of that aim was neglected, and that brain-culture was carried on to the neglect of physical training. This ideal standard should be clearly kept in view by those engaged in the work of teaching, but it was even more essential that it should be impressed upon the minds of those parents and others in whose hands rested the responsibility of bringing up children. Girls were sent to school to obtain what rudimentary training was necessary to enable them to meet their fellows on a common

basis of the "Three R's," and in addition to obtaining that, a smattering of a foreign language or two, and facility on the piano or with pen and pencil, as might appear necessary to make them so-called accomplished members of society. Now, could this be called education? Instead of developing the powers that were innate, it laid on this superficial crust of artificiality. (Hear, hear.) She did not know how far they were justified in judging of the educational ideals of the past from the present generation of women in Wales. If they looked at the women of the working classes, the prospect was not very encouraging. How was it so often found that the wives of the working men were so helpless and inefficient in their domestic management? The well-being of the whole family was too often seriously imperilled by their ignorance of the simplest laws of health, whilst their knowledge of cookery appeared to be limited to the brewing of tea—(hear, hear, and laughter)—which was made to serve all purposes, to the manifest injury of the physical power of the race. (Hear, hear.) After touching upon the evils of "cramming," the reader said that the real danger to the physical well-being of the race was in the existence of a large number of half-educated and ignorant women. The value of active bodily exercise was constantly becoming more and more recognised, and many of the modern schools had recognised the want by establishing gymnasia. How far were they in Wales realising their ideal? They had primary schools and University Colleges, open alike to men and women without restriction. (Hear, hear.) But there was still the fatal gap. There was needed the means of bridging over the period between the primary standard and that of the Universities or University Colleges. The circle was incomplete, there being nothing to supply the means for the intermediate education of girls in Wales. Of public schools for girls there were but three—Dr. Williams's school at Dolgelley, and those at Llandaff and Denbigh. The most valuable endowment for girls was that located at Ashford, which by its position outside the Principality was of comparatively little value as a means for education in Wales. Of the work done in the private schools it was difficult to form a just estimate, because the work was tested by standards which necessarily varied with every school. One of the national needs at the present moment was to arouse enthusiasm on the part of the parents, and to bring about a more thorough appreciation and a sounder knowledge of the requirements of a liberal education for Wales. Together with this, there must also be the provision of more intermediate schools throughout the Principality. (Hear, hear.) It might be reasonably objected that Wales was too poor a country and too thinly populated to support a large number of new girls' schools of a higher grade. The difficulty, however, might be got over by adopting the plan resorted to in America and other countries similarly placed—viz., the establishment of joint schools where boys and girls were actually taught together. Could there not be instituted dual schools, with a boys' side and another for the girls. (Hear, hear.) Wherever a new school was built in a country district let there be one side for boys and another for girls, and let the teacher, either male or female, teach a particular branch in both parts of the school. This would greatly tend to diminish the expense of school building, plans, and teaching staff. It was advisable that an association should be formed, which would direct its energies to raising the standard or ideal of a girl's education; to institute inquiries as to the condition of education in Wales, the number and efficiency of schools and the accommodation afforded; the proportion of the population availing themselves of the advantages, and other details. Then the educational ladder of Wales would be complete from the

bottom to the top, and every member of the community would be enabled to make the most of the powers of mind and body so liberally bestowed upon the Welsh people.

A very interesting discussion followed the reading of the paper. Professor Reichel, who occupied the position of chairman, spoke of the tendency of women to overwork themselves in the course of any educational training, and pointed out that their weaker physique made them liable to break down, from which men were largely exempt.—Dr. Jones-Morris, of Portmadoc, on the other hand, taking as a text the remarks of Dr. Withers Moore at the British Medical Association meeting, held that many of the evils attributed to over-pressure of education were in reality the result of bad hygienic conditions.—Mrs. Brant, D.Sc., in a telling speech, defended the position taken up by Miss Davies.

Thursday was given up to the Gorsedd.

CHORAL TRAINING IN WALES.

At Friday morning's meeting, presided over by Mr John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia), a paper on the interesting subject of "Choral Training in Wales" was read by Dr Roland Rogers, of Bangor.

The CHAIRMAN observed that it was only within recent times that a meeting to be entirely devoted to the subject of music could be held in connection with the Eisteddfod, and the results attained justified the step taken by the Cymmrodorion Society. He referred to the success achieved by the Welsh choirs, especially since Caradoc and his choir won the prize at the Handel Festival on three successive occasions. Their proficiency in choral singing more than compared favourably with any other nationality in Europe. The pinnacle had been attained by Dr Rogers with his marvellous quarry choir.

Dr ROLAND ROGERS, in the course of his remarks, said—Commencing with the sopranos, I must acknowledge with regret, and I fear it will unpleasantly surprise many of you to hear, that there are not ten out of every sixty who can read music, from either the tonic sol-fa or the old notation, but as a set-off against this inability is their possession of brilliant voices which are of good compass, and a very expressive style of singing any piece which they have been correctly taught to sing by ear. It is a pleasure to think that this deficiency in reading is not likely to exist in so marked a degree some years hence, as most of the children who now attend the different day schools are taught to sing from the tonic sol-fa notation by certificated teachers in a manner far more advanced in style and less limited in its capabilities than it was a few years ago. Added to this, also, there are in many districts enthusiastic amateurs, like Mr John Roberts of Portmadoc, who have done their best to obviate this shortcoming in the future by holding juvenile choral classes where the study of singing from notes has been taught systematically and successfully, a proceeding which must yield a satisfactory result in the future choral performances of this country. This inability to read music has had, as you will readily perceive, a much more disastrous effect in the alto portion of the chorus than it had in the soprano section, as it is naturally much easier to learn the air or melody by ear than an inner part which may or may not possess the same degree of tunefulness. I have no hesitation in saying that one of the primary causes of the success for three consecutive years of the Penrhyn Quarry Choral Union was due to the fact that we had contraltos and men with falsetto voices to sing the alto part, the former giving a fullness and brilliancy to the upper parts, ranging from G to D in the treble clef, and the latter supplying a corresponding power in chest notes from tenor G to the first

treble D, and though perhaps they were numerically and vocally weaker than the trebles, tenors, or basses, still their quality of tone flowed on smoothly, and did not in any way either interfere with the pitch or mar the beauty of the other voice parts. Putting on one side throaty singing, and returning again for one moment to the subject of baritone tenors, brings to my mind a notable instance which I think you will easily recognise. Your celebrated countryman, Mr James Sauvage, was twelve or fourteen years ago travelling round this country and giving concerts as a tenor vocalist. He subsequently entered the Royal Academy of Music, and studied under Signor Randegger as a tenor vocalist, but he has since struck out, and most successfully, too, into the very baritone part which I suggested he should take when I first heard him sing; and though his voice is now in excellent condition, I cannot help thinking that he would have been saved a good deal of wear and tear if he had from the first confined himself to and developed only his baritone register. It is by no means an uncommon occurrence in choral competitions, and one which always raises ridicule amongst the audience, for the conductor of a competitive choir to describe every figure short of a triangle with his legs—(laughter)—drive out both arms alternately as though he were boxing with an unseen adversary, or, suddenly sinking to a calm, spread out both hands, as though he were giving a paternal blessing all round, and then, after putting himself into a magnificent state of perspiration by these means, and his choir into a key sometimes a half and sometimes a whole tone sharper than the one in which they began, get down from his place of conducting looking as thoroughly exhausted as a man who had run a mile race in five minutes. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) I do not think this an exaggerated description, and I know from experience that these unnecessarily demonstrative conductors have been thought most highly of by members of competitive choirs. To check these unseemly antics, and bring about a more artistic method, I would propose that the gold medal or baton, which is usually awarded to the conductor of the successful choir, should be given to the conductor who appears most graceful in his movements, coupled with a sharpness in giving the "leads" to the different voice parts, and also by appearing to have, without any undue demonstration, the most absolute command over his choir, whether his choir be the successful one or not. I have heard it remarked that the Eisteddfod officials do not understand the meaning of the word "punctuality"—(hear, hear)—but I am sure they would take the matter into serious consideration if they did but fully realize the cruelty it is to women, and the painful tension it is even to strong men, to be cooped up as seven hundred of us were for three hours in a broiling hot ante-room at the Liverpool Eisteddfod, expecting to be called on to the platform every minute, and not daring to leave the room for any purpose. I do not see why the morning meetings cannot commence to the minute, a certain time, say ten, fifteen, or twenty minutes, allowed for the president's address, only three competitors on any vocal or instrumental solo allowed to appear on the platform, and the time for every item so rigorously kept by the conductor that the meetings could end as punctually as they should begin. I am sure the health of all concerned would be greatly benefited, for experience has taught me that there are only two meals in the day, breakfast and supper, that can be depended upon with any degree of certainty during the Eisteddfod week. Dr. Rogers then criticised at length the arrangements for choral competitions, and concluded with some practical suggestions.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that all would agree with him

that they were greatly indebted to Dr. Rogers for his admirable paper.—Three cheers were given for Dr. Rogers.

Mr E. PROUT, B.A., said he endorsed all that had been said by the Chairman of Dr. Rogers's excellent paper. He had himself been engaged as a conductor of choirs for more than thirty years, and probably had quite as much experience as Dr. Rogers, and therefore he was all the more able to endorse the sentiments expressed in the paper. He paid his first visit to the Principality twenty-one years ago, and he was then struck with the rich quality of voice possessed by the Welsh; and it was a somewhat strange coincidence that a male choir which he trained in 1865 should take the prize in Wednesday's choral competition. (Hear, hear.) As to the quality of voices, they in London could not touch the North of England and Wales, hilly and mountainous districts being more favourable to the development of the human voice. They in London experienced a great difficulty in getting tenors, and in the metropolis, as well as in Wales, they had plenty of baritone tenors. As suggested by Dr. Rogers, something ought to be done to improve the conductors, who should in every case give a clear and distinct beat, and do their utmost to utilise the beautiful voices they had in that part of the world; and he failed to see why they could not arrange periodical musical festivals. (Hear, hear.)

Addresses generally concurring with Dr. Rogers's paper were delivered by Messrs D. Jenkins, Mus. Bac., J. H. Roberts, Mus. Bac. (Pencerdd Gwynedd), John Roberts, Portmadoc, and Eos Morlais.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE UTILIZATION OF THE WELSH LANGUAGE.

The annual meeting of the members of the Society for the Utilization of the Welsh Language was held on Wednesday afternoon (Sep. 15), in the Institute, Carnarvon, Dr. Isambard Owen presiding. The Chairman said the object of the Society was to secure the thorough training of the Welsh youth both in the English and Welsh tongues. Mr Beriah Gwynfe Evans (secretary) moved the adoption of the report, which was carried, and the officers for the next year elected.

SCANDINAVIA AND NORTH WALES.

The following is an extract from "Reminiscences of my Later Life," by Mrs Mary Howitt, in the September number of *Good Words*:—"In our valued friend the mother of Mr Osborn Morgan, we had an agreeable link with Scandinavia and North Wales, as she had spent many years of her youth in Sweden, and took a keen interest in all pertaining thereto. Mrs Morgan and her two daughters constantly wintered in Rome; and the Sandbaches came one season. Mr Penry Williams, whose fifty years of residence in Rome was festively celebrated, much to the hero's surprise, by some appreciative friends in December, 1876, dwelt at Piazza Mignanelli, surrounded by his admirable sketches and glowing oil paintings of Italy and her contadini, which he showed in his accustomed quiet unobtrusive way. Miss Rhoda Broughton may also be classed in the Welsh list, from her residence in the Principality with her married sister, who accompanied her to Rome in the early part of 1874. As to Charles Hemans, a son of the Poetess, so enamoured of St. Asaph and its neighbourhood, nervous and retiring, absorbed in his books and archaeology, he had greatly changed from the lively little boy I could recall rushing exultantly to his mother to bring her "the red rose of glory," as he called a dark crimson Bengal rose.

SEPTEMBER 29, 1886.

NOTES.

EPITAPHS AT TREGARON.—The following is over the grave of a person who died in 1839, at the age of 16:—

"Thus! thus it is, we all must tread
The gloomy regions of the Dead:
No bloom of youth nor age can save
Our mortal bodies from the grave.

"Short was my stay in this vain world,
All but a seeming laughter,
Therefore mark well thy words and ways,
For thou com'st posting after."

The first verse seems to have been a favourite one in the family, for it appears on another stone to the memory of a member of it, who died in 1829, at the age of 19. In this case the following lines are added:—

"Long days and nights I bore great pain
Physicians try'd, but all in vain
Till God above did think it best
To ease my pain and give me rest."

There are others worth transcribing, but perhaps you will scarcely be able to find space for more than the following:—

"Like as the flower was my race
Which flourish'd and cut down in haste
Twenty-two years which was but young,
Soon pass'd away and I was gone:
Let my quick fate a warning be,
To all who come my grave to see."

I may observe that there are, or have been, some very good letter cutters at Tregaron, and they seem to have been aware of it, for in some cases they have inscribed their names at the foot of the stones in letters almost as conspicuous as those giving the names of the departed!

G. G.

MR. STANLEY LEIGHTON'S MSS.—The report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission contains the following interesting account of Mr Stanley Leighton's MSS. at Sweeney (edited by Mr Maxwell Lyte):—

The following books are in the library at Sweeney Hall, near Oswestry:—

A folio volume, newly bound and lettered—"Mytton MSS. 1597—1690." It contains 64 letters and papers, 36 of which, relating to Thomas Mytton of Halston, Major-General in the Parliamentarian army, have been printed in "Collections relating to Montgomeryshire" (vol. vii. p. 353, vol. viii. pp. 151, 293), with notes by their present owner. Among those which have not been printed are the following:—

f. 1. Writ of Privy Seal, dated March 6, 39 Elizabeth, to William Leighton of Plash, esquire, demanding a loan of 25l., with a receipt for that sum signed by Francis Newport.

f. 29. Letter from Anthony Hungerford, dated at Stoke Castle, December 2, 1645. There are these forces gathering for the relief of Chester, 1,500 horse from Newark, 200 from Hereford, 150 from Ludlow and B[ridge] N[orth]. There is also expectation of force from Goring, and from other parts, as Lichfield and Dudley, besides the horse which came with the King to Oxford. They hope to be ready to march on Thursday or Friday, but they are not likely to come this way, because Ludlow and B[ridge] N[orth] are drawn to them already.

f. 45. Copy of the examination of certain prisoners, taken before Thomas Madrin, High Sheriff of the county of Carnarvon, Col. John Carter, and Capt. Edmund Glynn. February 27, 1648. The six prisoners depose alike that they belonged to a vessel called the Michael of Wexford (Waishford), and make statements about the imprisonment of Mr Griffith Jones, and the plunder of his house at Castelmarch. They also give information about the impressment of seamen at Wexford to transport soldiers to England.

f. 81. Newsletter to Richard Mitton, dated London, April 24, 1690. It gives news from Vienna, Frankfurt, Turin, Heidelberg, Paris, Madrid, and Edinburgh. "The Duke of Gordon is arrived at Brest with about twelve English and Scotch disbanded officers. The late Lord Jeffreys' house is taken for the Admiralty Office."

A small 4to volume written on paper of the time of James I. It contains:—

f. 1. Copy of the confirmation by Henry VI. of the agreement between the Bailiffs and the Commonalty of Shrewsbury, with the oaths of the different officers of the corporation.

f. 21. "The names of the villages within the franchises of Shrewsburie."

f. 23. "A noate of those that have been Bailifes of the towne of Shrewsbury, beginninge in the 46th yere of Kinge Edward the third," with historical notes in the margin. Among the notes are the following, the years being computed from March 25:—

1434 "Poles steple was sett on fier with lightnings, and also from St. Katarns Day till St. Valentyns day there was a frost that men might with cartes passe over Temes from place to place."

1455. "Queen Margaret gives bages, and my Lord of Shrowsbury and John Trentam varied, and had either of them a man slayne."

1459. "Pame Sonday Feelde."

1472. "The Duke of Yorke was borne at the Gray Fryers in Salop." (In other chronicles it is stated that he was born at the Black Friars.)

1488. "King Henry the 7th came to Salope."

1494. "King Henry 7th with the Queene and Prince Arther came to Salop, and the same yere the exchequier was built."

1496. "Prince A[rthur] died at Ludlowe."

1516. "This yere was ill may daie in London."

1535. "The Duke of Somersett and the Duke of Norfolk was in Salop."

1561. "4 June. Paules steeples was burned (was set on fier by lightning) which began in the top of the steple and burnt downwarde and so consumed the steple, and 4 great ruffes in lesse the [o] 4 howers."

1563. "Mr Aston's second play."

1568. "This yere was a yertquake in Salop, and this yere was Mr Aston's third play."

1580. "Sir Henry Sydney, Lord President, kept St. George's feast in this towne, because he was a knight of the garter."

1604. "The plague was in Shrewsbury."

1630. "The plague was in Shrosbury."

1649. "This yere the plague begunn, and ended in June 1651."

1663. "The Castle was given to the King, who never requested itt of the Towne."

1672. "This year was such a vast flood in Shrewsbury that it threw down the Welsh Gate and did other great Spoyles besides."

1686. "King James came his progress in Holywell in September, and on the Wildecop, Mr Mayor presented him with the keyes of the gates and a purse of gold. Hee

received them and did give the keyes to Serjant William Bowers who was one of the Mayor's Serjants then, and hee kept them till the coming in [of] the Prince of Orange, and then delivered them in the Chequer. When King James was at supper in the great chamber in the Counsell house, he caused the chamber to be propt up for feare of falling, and he had 3 dishes of flesh, 3 of fowle, and 3 of sweet meats, 9 in all, to supper, and no more. Mr Patrick Lamb his head cooke brought them all 9 to the table, and did present them on his knee. Hee brought all his household goods with him and his owne beere and wine and bed, etc. On the morow being Friday all the fish that could be had was bought up and presented in order for his diner, and the Major and Aldermen being 12 and assistantts 24 came to attend him; but he stayd not to dine nor to see them, butt gott downe a private back staires, and for hast gott upon the wrong side the horse, and to Whitechurch that night. This I had from one that saw him take horse.

"In the morning the Prisyterian preachers, John Brian, Francis Tallants, preachers at Oliver's Chappell in the High Streets, and Mr Rowland Hunt, Doctor Jackson, Doctor of Physick, Daniel Jenks, ironmonger, Joseph Pearson, cutler, presented him with a purse of gold supposed to be 100*l*, and were freely accepted, butt still lying the obligation on them to chuse such members for next parliament as should be for takeing of [] the penall laws and test, and to that end he left behinde him William Pen, chiefe and head of the quakers, who began to speake att Mardoll head; butt the rabble supposing what hee would be att, the mobb gave a shoutt and over bawled him; so hee desisted and got his way, the mobb knocking the bulks as he passed." Oliver's Chapel was so called after Thomas Oliver, a turner, who lived in the house. "When King James came into towne, a man climbed up, and gott to stand on the top stone of St. Maryes Steeple, and held by the cross bar with a flagg in his hand all the while the King was touching for the King's Evil in the Church under him, and when the King came out of the Church, the man on the Steeple shot of [] a pistol, which made King James ask what meant that, and it was answered him that it was for joy of his person. The King sayd it was a presumptions thing to doo itt Butt I never could learne the man ever gott a farthing for his paines."

1687. "Mass was in a house of Mr Jevons, which is betwixt the high cross and the high conduitt sang openly, and one Judge Alibond, who satt then as judge of nisi prius, went of the Bench to Mass in that house."

1696. "A rejoycing day was held for the discovery of the plott, and a great bonfire with aluminations, great store of wine, beere, tobacco att the Towne hall; and an effigie of the French King made in sumptuous maner, and caried along the streets, and burnt at the high crosse in most splendid maner."

1696, October 3. Curious account of an execution.

A folio volume, written on paper in the 18th century. It contains a list of the Sheriffs of Shropshire from A.D. 1154, and of the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury from A.D. 1372, with historical notes in the margin, derived from various sources. The compiler copied many notes from the chronicle known as "Dr. Taylor's MS.," of which an account is given in the "Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society," vol. iii., pp. 239-352. The notes in this volume, however, extend down to the year 1789 and contain much information about the town of Shrewsbury which is not to be found elsewhere. Under the year 1610, there is a curious account of a riot, in which a mob kept possession of the School-house for four days and three nights, encouraged by one of the masters, named Ralph

Gittins. Under the year 1642, there is a copy of an acknowledgment by Charles I. to Richard Gibbons, late Mayor of Shrewsbury, and Thomas Chaloner, late Master of the free school, for a loan of £600 from the stock belonging to the School, to be repaid on demand. It bears date October 11, 1642. Some of the later entries relate to parliamentary elections, and to the affairs of Shrewsbury School. On f. 72, there is a list of the head Schoolmasters, and of the second, third, and fourth Schoolmasters, from A.D. 1562 to A.D. 1783. At the end of the volume there is an elaborate index.

A folio volume of letters and papers of Edward Lloyd of Llanvordda near Oswestry. Among a number of documents of no general interest there are the following:—

A narrative of Capt. Edward Lloyd's services on behalf of the King during the Civil War, and of his subsequent sufferings, with an account of his losses amounting in all to £8,080 14*s*.

"The names of the malignant enymies to the Kinge's Majestie in and about Oswestree," with notes of treasonable words uttered by them. (A.D. 1660 or 1661.)

"Articles against the phanaticall corporation of Oswestry."

A long and elaborate account of the state of the fisheries near Aberystwyth, Dovey, and Barmouth.

Several news letters of the years 1680 and 1681 from Sir R. Gwen, and Dr John Gadsbury, to Edward Lloyd.

Mr Leighton has also many documents relating to the Charlton family of Ludford. Among them are several mediæval deeds concerning property at Hebland, near Bishop's Castle.

The following passage occurs in a letter from E. S. to Job Charlton, Esq., dated Ma. 24, 1659[-60]:—

"The Lord Admiral Montague is gone to the navy to command it, by order from the Council of State, and, as they say, carryeth good affections with him. The Nazeby frigott is rigging up very trimm, and diverse of the English shippis flourish with the King's colours. Nor is preparation at sea onely. At Whitehall all the frogs that crawled in King's chambers are commanded out, and the house is furnishing with rich hangings."

In another bundle of deeds relating to property in Middlesex in the reign of Charles II., mention is made of two bowling greens fronting the Haymarket and a portion of land lying north of the Tennis Court. Thomas Panton of St. Martin's in the Fields, and Sir Henry Oxenden of Deane, in Wingham, are among the persons mentioned.

I have to thank Mr Stanley Leighton, not only for his hospitality at Sweeney Hall, but also for his active exertions in obtaining for me access to several other collections of manuscripts in the county of Salop. Separate reports on most of these will be found under the names of their respective owners. I have not, however, made any reports on the manuscripts of Mr Heber Percy of Hodnet, Mr Kynaston of Hardwicke, or Mr Wolryche Whitmore of Dudmaston Hall, inasmuch as they consist of title deeds and papers of no historical interest. The muniments of the Corporation of Oswestry may here be mentioned as being in very good order, Mr Stanley Leighton having caused several volumes containing mediæval charters and other records to be handsomely bound in white vellum. Any longer report on them would be superfluous, as Mr Leighton has himself published a full account of them with numerous extracts, in a series of papers contributed to the "Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society." Notices of some documents relating to Oswestry are also to be found in "Bye-Gones," an antiquarian periodical conducted by the late Mr Askev Roberts of that place.

H. C. MAXWELL LYTE.
Ed.

QUERIES.

CIRCULATING WELSH CHARITY SCHOOLS.
Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* refer me to any work that contains an account of the above schools?
 QUERIST.

REPLIES.

TOLLING THE DEATH KNELL AT DOLGELLEY (Sept. 15, 1886).—The question asked by "T.W.H." "respecting the peculiarities of the tolling of the church bell at Towyn, announcing a death in the parish," reminded me of the very old custom which exists in this parish, and has existed since the peal of eight bells were put up in the church steeple at the beginning of the present century, and possibly in the time of their predecessor, the old cracked bell which was hung on a tree near the entrance porch to the churchyard, and perhaps from time immemorial. Whenever a death occurs in the parish, and the remains are to be buried in the churchyard, the sexton, on being informed of the event, starts the "Caul," generally on the day following the death. If the departed is a female, two preliminary strokes are given, one-two, one-two, and then the bell is rung. If a male, three preliminary strokes, one-two-three, one-two-three, are given. If a young child, the "cnul," is rung on one of the lightest toned bells, the first or second; if a full grown person, it is rung on the fourth or fifth bell; and if an old person on the sixth or seventh bell. The eighth bell is hardly ever used except as a "passing bell," and then partly muffled, one stroke every 30 seconds or thereabouts; but the passing bell is only used when a member of one of our great families is dead. Generally on the eve of the burial of such person, all the eight bells, muffled, are rung for about ten minutes at a time, with an interval of about an hour between each ringing, and so also on the morning of the burial. The custom has not been changed, to my knowledge, during the past 50 years.
 O.R.
 Dolgelley.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr John Walker, town clerk of Chester, died at his residence, near Chester, last week, aged seventy-six. Mr Walker was appointed town clerk of the city in 1857, and throughout his life he had been identified with Chester, where he also for many years conducted a large private legal practice.

Within the last few days there has passed away, at her town residence in Grafton-street, one of the last survivors of the grandchildren of the great Lord Clive. She was Frances Margaret, elder daughter of the late Colonel Lambert Theodore Walpole, brother of Mr Thomas Walpole, many years Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Munich. Her mother was the Hon. Margaret Clive, daughter of the distinguished Indian Governor-General, the first Lord Clive.

The *St. James's Gazette*, in an article on "The Tendency of Modern Dress," says:—Twenty years ago, the Welsh market-women at Aberystwyth were giving up the old steeple-crowned hats which had come down to them from their grandmothers, because the English visitors laughed at them, and the same cause is, no doubt, at work in the gradual disappearance of the local costumes in those parts of Normandy which have easy communication with Paris. But with us, unfortunately, the influence of the capital is

all the worse in that it implies the blind want of taste which makes the individual follow the shape or colour of a garment that is utterly unsuitable in his particular case, however becoming it may have been to the originator of the fashion.

The following letters appear in the *Athenæum* in answer to the letter of "E.O.," which we published last week:—It was with great reluctance that the Council of the Society of Cymmrodorion relinquished its project of taking copies of the "Red Book of Hergest." The subject was not dismissed without anxious consideration, and the suggestion made by your correspondent "E.O." was, amongst others, discussed; but no arrangement of a practicable character could be seen by us. The Society is not a purely literary one, and many interests have to be regarded in the conduct of its affairs. The annual reunion of 1886, which had been projected on a rather more ambitious scale than usual, was unavoidably postponed owing to the illness of a gentleman who was to have borne an important part in its management. Ultimately the Council resolved to throw the date over into the autumn rather than risk the success of the meeting by holding it at a late period of the season. Members of the Society need have, I think, no fear of its falling into a comatose condition just yet. ISAMBAARD OWEN.—Will you kindly spare me space to state that the only difference which the withdrawal of the support of the Cymmrodorion Society will make to the publication of the Old Welsh Texts is (a) the reduction of the number of copies to be printed from a thousand to five hundred, and (b) the enlargement of the cheap edition from demy octavo to royal octavo. The series will, originally announced, appear at the rate of one volume per annum. The first work, the "Red Book" text of the "Mabinogion," &c., will shortly be ready for distribution to subscribers. All who wish to support the scheme and to possess a copy of the above work should send their names to me without delay. As the series will not be published in the usual way, no copy of any work can be supplied after distribution to subscribers. J. GWENOGFRYD EVANS.

THE LATE MRS F. R. WEST.—Intelligence has been received at Ruthin of the death at Newlands Manor, Lymington, Dorset, of Mrs West, wife of the late Mr F. R. West, M.P., and mother of Colonel Cornwallis West, M.P., Lord-Lieutenant of Denbighshire. Mrs West was in her eighty-first year.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION EXCURSIONS IN SHROPSHIRE.

Continued. (Sept. 22, 1886.)

The fifth day of the Shropshire excursions of the British Association was devoted to the Llandeilo division of the Ordovician rocks, and proved most fortunate both as regards the work done and the weather. The party started from the pretty little village of Chirbury, where the previous night had been spent. A sunny drive to Wootherton, and a visit to its well-known barytes mine opened the day, and fossils were collected abundantly later on at the famous Meadowtown quarries and elsewhere. During the day's work every zone of rock in the Llandeilo series was examined, and their relations to contemporaneous rocks elsewhere pointed out. In the afternoon the party proceeded to Hagley, where the great ash beds of Bala age are laid bare, and a glorious panorama was obtained, including Cader Idris, the Arenigs, Plynlimon, the Berwyns, and the nearer Corndon. From this point the party walked to Chirbury, crossing upon the way the beautiful Marrington Dingle, the deep gorge of which lay in black shadow, while its steep oak-covered banks were suffused in the

burning red of the sunset glow. The final day began with a walk down Marrington Dingle, and a visit to the Llandeilo black shales of Spy Burn, from which an abundance of grapholites were collected by some of the more industrious geologists. The summit of the Corndon mountains was reached soon after mid-day, and the entire Ordovician and Silurian region lay spread out like a map before the party. The lie of the rocks, their sequence, and the proofs that they afford that the physical geology of the district is a complete reflex of its geological structure were pointed out, by Mr Watts, who laid especial stress upon the position of the great volcanic lava beds, ashes, and intrusive rocks of the area. The party then descended the hill, and visited the quarries at its base, where the structure and relations of the great dykes and laccolities is laid bare, and the proofs of their mode of intrusion and their action on the enveloping strata are clearly apparent. Regaining the carriages the party then made a pleasant drive down Linley Avenue, staying for a few minutes at Linley Hall to wish a hearty good bye to Mr and Mrs Jasper More, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the leaders, Messrs Lapworth, Watts, and De La Touche, as well as to Professor Hughes and others who had contributed to the success of the expedition.

THE CARBONIFEROUS LIMESTONE OF FLINTSHIRE.

At the late meeting of the British Association, an interesting paper was read by Mr G. H. Morton of Liverpool on "The Carboniferous Limestone of the North of Flintshire." He said:—"In the year 1870 I described before the Association the sub-divisions into which the carboniferous limestone of North Wales is naturally divided by clear lithological characters, and in 1877 more fully described the sub-divisions of the formation as they occur in the Eglwysyg ridge, near Llangollen. Since then the whole of Flintshire has been examined, and the original classification found to extend to the sea coast at the north of the county. Although the sub-divisions are not piled up, one over the other, in a precipitous outcrop, the succession is as clearly shown between Prestatyn and Meliden as at Llanymynech and Llangollen, and the uniform character of each sub-division along the intervening forty-four miles of country is remarkable. The following four sub-divisions of the carboniferous limestone are all well exposed in a fine mural section three and a quarter miles in length, from Castell Prestatyn on the north, to the end of Moel Hiraddug on the south, and occur in the following descending order:—Upper black limestone: A black fine-grained, thin-bedded limestone, containing very few fossils, but including *Posidomya* Bechert, and the remains of many plants. Thickness, 200 feet. Upper grey limestone: A dark grey, thin-bedded limestone, with thin seams of interstratified shale, containing numerous fossils, including *Productus giganteus* and corals. Thickness, 500 feet. Middle white limestone: A white or light grey, thick-bedded limestone, containing very few fossils. Thickness, 600 feet. Lower brown limestone: A brown or dark grey, irregularly-bedded limestone, containing few fossils, but with interstratified shales at the base of the sub-division, which contain the remains of plants. Thickness, 400 feet. The total thickness of these four sub-divisions, forming the carboniferous limestone of the North of Flintshire, is 1,700 feet, which is much greater than anywhere else in North Wales. Although the line of the section is nearly N. and S. the average dip of the strata is about 14 deg. to the E.N.E. at Coed-yr-Esgob, N.W. at Bryniau, and N.E.N. at Moel Hiraddug, so that it is greater than it appears to be in the section. The highest sub-division, the upper black

limestone, occurs at the north end, and the upper grey limestone crops out from under it, and extends to Nant-yr-Ogof, where there is a considerable fault, which brings up the top of the lower brown and the base of the middle white limestone. From the fault the middle white extends three-quarters of a mile, when the lower brown limestone crops out, continues some distance, and forms the conspicuous hill, Moel Hiraddug, on the top of which the lower beds of the middle white limestone are again exposed. Along the west and parallel with the section there are two great faults, known as the Prestatyn fault and the Vale of Clwyd fault, and on the western side of the former a bare limestone hill, Craig-fawr, rises to an elevation of 500 feet, and presents a grand exposure of the middle white limestone, which is 600 feet in thickness. Numerous fossils occur at the north end of Craig-fawr, and a greater number has been obtained there than from the middle white limestone anywhere else. On the west of the carboniferous limestone shown along the line of section several faults, including the two already referred to, have thrown down the limestone beneath the level of the sea, and the lower coal measures have been proved to occur at Meliden and Dyserth, beneath a deep covering of drift.

NORTH WALES DISTRICT, 1886.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF PAUPERISM IN THE SEVERAL UNIONS.

UNIONS. (Arranged according to proportion of Pauperism, 1st January, 1886, to Population, those having least Pauperism being placed first)	Population, 1881.	Proportion per cent. of Indoor and Outdoor Pauperism, 1st Jan., 1886.	Ratio per cent. of Paupers relieved 1st January, 1886, on population.		Cost for Relief of Poor, Half-year ended Lady Day, 1886, per head of population	Expenditure for Relief of Poor, Half-year ended Lady Day, 1886.	
			In-door	Out-door		In-maintenance	Out-relief.
Fordeu	18,274	23.6	76.4	2.6	1 11	£ 458	£ 566
Wrexham ..	55,172	20.9	79.1	2.7	1 43	1,128	2,654
Hawarden ...	15,682	10.2	89.8	3.1	1 5	225	884
Llanrwst ...	14,109	7.4	92.6	3.7	2 01	159	1,287
Deirollewy ..	15,108	9.6	90.4	3.8	2 51	279	1,588
Ruthin	14,216	17.4	82.6	3.8	3 31	350	1,265
Bala	6,740	19.1	80.9	3.9	3 21	175	573
Llanfyllin ..	19,955	8.3	91.7	4.1	2 3	377	1,875
Conway	18,229	13.4	86.6	4.2	3 11	565	2,170
Machynallth ..	12,503	7.1	92.9	4.3	7 7	171	1,447
Corwen	16,830	8.1	91.9	4.5	3 31	186	1,733
Bangor and Beaumaris ..	33,143	6.0	94.0	4.7	2 103	483	5,060
Festiniog ..	29,461	6.5	93.5	4.7	3 9	374	3,736
St. Asaph ..	29,445	9.6	90.4	4.8	3 9	694	3,614
Holywell ..	45,035	10.2	89.8	4.8	2 6	882	4,820
Newtown & Llanidloes ..	25,440	8.9	91.1	5.1	2 93	404	3,169
Camarlton ..	43,595	4.5	95.5	5.2	3 4	438	4,787
Pwllheli ..	22,749	5.8	94.2	5.8	3 3	351	3,346
Anglesey ..	15,170	3.7	96.3	6.6	3 5	174	2,469
Holyhead ..	19,294	5.4	94.6	6.7	3 5	265	3,044
North Wales	476,113	9.2	90.8	4.5	2 51	8,078	49,977
England & Wales	25,974,439	24.3	75.7	3.0	1 81	978,496	1,205,364

The expenditure for the Relief of the Poor in England and Wales is for the Lady Day half-year 1885.

OCTOBER 6, 1886.

NOTES.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE SUPERSTITION ABOUT BEES.—My attention has lately been called to a lingering local superstition about bees; it would be interesting to know whether or not it is widespread. To sell a swarm of bees, it is said, is sure to bring ill-luck to the family, hence they are disposed of by way of loan, repayable, with interest—a part—sometimes half—of the produce, honey, wax, and medd, at the end of the season. One form of the ill-luck is that the remainder of the bees will make a speedy exit. T. H. J.

EPITAPH IN CORWEN CHURCHYARD.—On a tombstone in Corwen Churchyard, on the south side of the church, between the church and the College, is to be seen the following inscription, which is worth preserving in *Bye-Gones*, where it is likely to last much longer than where it is at present:—

HIC IACET CORP
THOMÆ WYNNE DE
GLYNDYFRDWWY GENEROSI
QVI OBIT 26 MART
1654.

CONSERVANT ANIMAM
TEGIT OSSA SEPVLCHRVM
NOMEN ODORIFERVVM
SECULA SERA CANENT.

The following verse conveys fairly the sense of the Latin lines:—

Bright heaven is thy repose,
This tomb thy bones enclose,
Unborn ages shall proclaim
The fragrance of thy name.

There is much that is curious in this churchyard, and some time or other the writer will send a further contribution of gleanings made in it. E. O.

GORONWY OWEN (May 19, 1886.)—Welshmen will always take an interest in the memory of their Goronwy Owen, and everything connected with him. The following notice is a copy of the order or warrant whereby he was to get £20 at the Treasury to pay the expenses of his passage to America. On a future occasion I shall make further observations on this document, which, I believe, has never before been printed. T. W. H.

GRONOW OWEN.

Order is taken this 4th day of June 1757 By Virtue of His Majesty's General Letters Patent Document bearing date the 22nd day of June 1727 that you deliver and pay of such his Maj's Treasure remaining in your charge unto Gronow Owen or his Assigns the sum of Twenty pounds without account towards defraying the charge of his passage to the province of Virginia in America whither he is going a Minister. And these together with his or his assigns acquittance shall be yo'r discharge herein

5s to Tompkins y'e clerk.

6d p'r Civil List.

Endorsed

"Order

Gronow Owen, Minist'r £20.

Ent'd.

Ex'd p'r Lincoln."

xxli
H. B.
Legge.
Dun-
cannon.
J.
Greville.

QUERIES.

TWR TEWDWS.—Will any of your readers inform me what star or constellation goes by this Welsh name? Last year I heard it referred to as "twr tatws."

E. OWEN.

THE DESCENDANTS OF THE WELSH PRINCES.—Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* who is skilled in Welsh history and genealogy inform me whether any of the descendants of the Princes of Deheubarth, Powys, and Gwynedd are in being at the present time, and if so who they are? AN ENQUIRER.

REPLIES.

CIRCULATING WELSH CHARITY SCHOOLS (Sept. 29, 1886).—Your correspondent "QUERIST" will find a very exhaustive account of the origin of these schools in Sir Thomas Phillips's *Wales*, chap. vii., on "Welsh Education," pp. 247-314, and also in the Report of the Charity Commissioners' Enquiry into Welsh Charities (1836). I shall be happy to give any further information in this column if the subject is thought of sufficient interest. EDWIN POOLE.

Brecknock.

CURRENT NOTES.

Messrs Sampson and Low are about to publish a personal memoir of the late Mr Caldecott's early art career by Mr Henry Blackburn, who was an intimate friend of the artist. The volume will contain numerous facsimiles of Caldecott's paintings, modellings, and designs for decorations, hitherto unpublished.

The following is an extract from "Leaves from our Early Issues," appearing in the *North Wales Chronicle* (Jan. 8th to 16th, 1818):—"A few days ago, as some labourers were digging on Sweeney Mountain, near Oswestry, in order to clear away the soil to open a new stone quarry, and got down six or seven feet below the surface, they thought they perceived the ground hollow beneath their feet. Whilst they were doubting whether to proceed in their work or not, and had ascended from the excavation they had made, to consult with some other working men near them, the ground suddenly gave way, and on their return presented an opening large enough to admit the passage of two people. Ladders, ropes, torches, and some colliers were instantly procured from the neighbouring colliery at Treflach. The sons of the black regions descended into the chasm, and found that the earth had fallen into a long passage running in a direction from north to south. They followed it to a considerable distance, crawling sometimes on their hands and knees, and at others finding the vault sufficiently high to admit a man upright, till at length, after a laborious search of an hour and a half, finding their torches nearly burnt out, they thought it safest to return. The passage to the north being stopped up by the earth, has not yet been explored, but there can be little doubt that this cavern, so very unexpectedly discovered, is part of that which, beginning at Llanymynech, and called the Ogo Cave, has long, according to the tradition of the country, been supposed, to communicate with an opening of the same name under the lime works in the parish of St. Martins, opposite the castle of Chirk, and which has been so long doubted, and so much an object of research to the antiquary. The concourse of people that have of late flocked to the spot is immense, and many have been tempted to enter the cavern; but the worthy proprietor of the spot on which this antique discovery has been made, with the same laudable feeling which charac-

terizes all his actions, has made a temporary inclosure around it to prevent such an attempt at present, and has actually begun and carried to a considerable height a castellated tower, which in point of beauty bids fair to rival any building of the sort in the country. From the floor a flight of steps is to descend into the cavern beneath, and we have no doubt that the enquiring spirit of the intelligent proprietor will not suffer a subject so worthy of his search to remain any longer in obscurity. We hope to be able soon to lay before our readers the result of any discoveries which may be made in this interesting occurrence.

THE WHITCHURCH (SALOP) CHURCH BELLS.—Taylor's six part-peal Grandsire triples, consisting of 5,040 changes, was attempted on Tuesday evening, Sept. 28, but, after ringing some 3,000 changes, in about two hours, it had to be given up on account of two bells changing course. Nothing daunted, however, the ringers made another trial on Wednesday morning, and for the first time in Whitchurch the peal was successfully accomplished, occupying from 6.50 until 10 o'clock. The following were the ringers:—W. Hutchinson, treble; Joseph Griffiths, 2; George Wright, 3; John Gibson, Chester, 4; Thomas Bithell, Chester, 5; George Woodhall, 6; Freeman Ball, Chester, conductor, 7, and T. Barron, 8. On Wednesday: Griffiths, treble; Gibson, 2; Wright, 3; A. Crosse, Chester, 4; Bithell, 5; Woodhall, 6; Freeman Ball, 7; Barron, 8; and was conducted by Mr F. Ball. This was the first time Wright, Woodhall, and Barron had rung a peal.

AN ORDNANCE SURVEY ON THE SUMMIT OF SNOWDON.

The *Liverpool Courier* says that the summit of Snowdon is now used as an observing station by the Ordnance Survey authorities, who are at present engaged in making a trigonometrical survey of the neighbouring mountains and district in Carnarvon, for the purpose of laying down the basework previous to the detail survey being made for the new ordnance maps of the county. An observatory is temporarily erected on a large stone pile which crowns the top of the mountain, from which observations are taken to all the principal points in sight, in order to obtain the altitudes and horizontal distances between each of the same, the chief instrument used for this purpose being a 12-inch theodolite, of one of the latest patterns. These operations will probably occupy a few weeks, owing to this lofty eminence being a great portion of the time in clouds of mist, but some very clear weather has been experienced, which has facilitated the work, and enabled many who have lately made the ascent in the early mornings to witness some very fine sunrises and excellent views. Lines of sight are obtained and measured from the observatory to Holyhead Mountain, Carnedd Dafydd, Plynlimon, Cader Idris, Moel-y-gest, and many other distant points, by means of a triangulation brought through the country from Salisbury Plain, where a base of 6.93 miles was laid and measured with Colby's compensation bars in 1849, and checked by a base line measured on the shores of Lough Foyle in Ireland in 1827-8, connected to the former by a series of triangles. The accuracy of all these operations will be seen by the fact that the difference of the length of the base line on Salisbury Plain, as actually measured and calculated from the Lough Foyle base was only 4.7 inches. The operations in the county of Carnarvon are being rapidly pushed forward, when, upon its completion, maps of great accuracy will be published on scales of 10 feet to the mile for towns of over 4,000 inhabitants, 25 inches to the mile for parish

maps, and six inches to the mile for the county maps, being the same scales as the remaining counties of Wales are published on, together with the greater number of the English counties. Snowdon was also used in the old survey, the centre mark on its summit being again utilised for a check on the new work round it. It may be mentioned that the survey for the old maps of one inch to the mile was first commenced in 1791, but upon a recommendation of a committee in 1854-5 the scales were increased to the sizes now used, for many purposes, and as every little detail will be shown in them their superiority will be recognized and their usefulness proved to many.

OCTOBER 13, 1886.

NOTES.

MODERN WELSH SURNAMES.—List of Modern Welsh Surnames which are really patronymics, and formed by the blending of "ab" or "ap" ("mab"—"son") with a Personal name following. From an inspection of the names in this list it is clear that "ab" was used always before personal names beginning with a vowel, and "ap" before personal names beginning with "h" or "r". This rule is only violated in the names "Broderick" (or Brodrick) and "Brice".

Barthur—Ab Arthur	Povah—Ap Hwfa
Batha } Ab Adda (Adam)	Pumphrey—Ap Humphrey
Batho? }	Pugh—Ap Hugh
Beavor—Ab Ivor	Puskin—Ap Hoesgyn (Eng- lish Hoskin)
Bellis—Ab Elis	Powell—Ap Hywel
Benion } —Ab Einion	Prandle—Ap Kandle
Beynon }	Price } —Ap Rhys
Bevan—Ab Evan	Preece }
Biodyn—Ab Yodyn	Prichard—Ap Richard
Bithell—Ab Ithel	Progger }
Boliver—Ab Oliver	Proger } —Ap Roger
Bowen—Ab Owen	Probert }
Broderick } —Ab Roderick	Probart }
Brodrick }	Probyn—Ap Robin
Bunner—Ab Ynyr	Prynallt—Ap Reinalt
Brise—Ab Rhys	Prosser—Ap Rosser
Parry—Ap Harry	Prydderch }
Palin—Ap Heilin	Prothero? } Ap Rhydderch
Penry—Ap Henry	
Popkin—Ap Hopcyn (Eng- lish Hopkin)	

Wrexham.

ALFRED N. PALMER.

PETITION BY THE DRAPERS OF SHREWSBURY TO PREVENT THE FREE SALE OF WELSH CLOTHS.—*Temp. James I.*—The following petition, which is preserved with many others in a collection in the Guildhall Library, London*, may be of interest to readers of *Bye-Gones*:—

To The Right Hon: the Lords Spirituall and Temporall of the Higher House of Parliament.

The humble Petition of the Drapers of the Towne of Shrewsbury.

Whereas there is a Bill passed in the Lower House of Parliament for the free Trade and Traffique of Welsh Cloathes; in and through the Kingdom of England and Dominion of Wales, by which the Inhabitants of Wales are enabled freely to sell by way of Barter or otherwise all their welch Cloathes at their wils and pleasures to any person who may lawfully buy the same; and that any persons who by the Lawes of this Realm may lawfully

* Book Beta, Art. 14.

buy any such Cloathes, may freely buy the same of any persons inhabiting within the said Dominion of Wales.

Any Charter, Graunt, Act, Order, or anything else heretofore made or hereafter to be made to the contrary notwithstanding and further giueth certaine liberty to any persons using the Trade of Merchandize to transport the said cloathes into the parts beyond the seas—out of any Ports or Hauens of Wales, etc. *ut in Billa* (as in the Bill) which Bill if it shall alsoe passe this Honourable House, these inconueniencies would ensue.

1. *To the Towne of Shrewsbury.*—The Clothiers of Wales may sell their Cloathes by retayle or otherwise in *Shrewsbury*, contrary to an auncient Charter of Corporation graunted to the Drapers by Edward the 4th and confirmed by the Kings Majestie that now is, & others of his ancestors. And so for this Commodity it doth take away their Priueledge and the Priuelege of all other corporations of England. The Drapers are prohibited by the French Patent to transport the said Cloathes into France as formerly they used to doe; and so if this act passe, will be deprived of that Trade both abroad and at home—which home-Trade for Welsh Cloathes, they haue founded—continued and maintained, euen time out of mind.

Many poore Sheermen and their Families to the number of 800 persons, that liue thereby dressing the said Cloathes will be undone or forced to seeke their new dwellings in the farthest part of Wales where dwellings are scarce.

The Towne in general wanting its accustomed trade will bee impouerished and unfit to doe His Majestie seruice as heretofore it hath done.

2. *To the Country of Wales.*—The Marchants transporting thence onely at certaine times of the yeare will ouerthrow the weekly Market at *Oswestry*. Without the which the poore Clothier cannot liue, at which Market the Drapers of *Shrewsbury*, *Oswestry*, and *Whitchurch*, did bestow 2,000 pounds or thereabouts euery weeke.

3. *To the King.*—By transporting out of those partes and selling at diuers Markets, the King will be defrauded of his custom and Aulage, or be at a greater charge in receiuing of it, then the profit will amount to.

4. *To the Kingdom.*—Forraigne partes will be furnished by forraigne Marchants, with the better sort of these Cloathes (which are very useful) and at a cheaper rate than our owne Kingdome.

Under colour of transporting Cottons out of those creekes, the Marchants will transport Rawe hydes, Wooll, Tallow, and other prohibited goods.

The Lords of the Priuie Counsell as well in the late Queen's time as in his Majestie's time that now is haue, upon graue and mature deliberations and references to diuers Honorable personages and graue Judges both of England and Wales (who heard the allegations of all parties) (? parties) made seuerall Orders for the settling of the Trade which by this Act will be ouerthrown.

It may therefore please your Honours to haue Consideration of the precedent Reasons and to lend your Honorable Assistance for the rectifying of the said Bill, for the good of the said Towne, and Common-weale.

SABRINA.

QUERIES.

THE PROPOSED CREATION OF A MERIONETH BOROUGH.—I have been told that about the time of the first Reform Bill, there was a general desire amongst the inhabitants of Merionethshire for the creation of a Borough Constituency in that county; that a petition to Parliament embodying their wishes was

drawn up and received many signatures; and that the late Sir William Wynne issued a circular to the gentry and freeholders of the county requesting their signature to the petition. Could any correspondent of *Bye-Gones* favour me with a copy of the said petition and circular; and say by whom and when the petition was presented to Parliament, and what notice was taken of the prayer of the petitioners? BONWM.

REPLIES.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE SUPERSTITION ABOUT BEES (Oct. 6, 1886).—Your correspondent "T.H.J." mentions a superstition in Montgomeryshire, that it is unlucky to buy bees. The superstition has a much wider range than Montgomeryshire. I heard it this year in Worthenbury parish, which is on the borders of England geographically, and as far as language is concerned is a part of England. I lately heard the same belief expressed in Efenechtyd parish, near Ruthin, by a Welsh-speaking woman, who believed the saying, but the Worthenbury person ridiculed the saying, and proved it to be incorrect, for he had bought a hive that did well, whilst a gift hive that he had did not thrive. F.O.

THE DESCENDANTS OF THE WELSH PRINCES (Oct. 6, 1886).—If "AN ENQUIRER" will consult Nicholas's work on Welsh Families, or any of Burke's Works on Genealogy, &c., he will be able to find the names of dozens of the descendants of nearly all the old Welsh Princes who are still living. To give their names would be tedious, as any standard work on Genealogy, and especially one on Welsh Genealogy, would give him all he required. Amongst the middle, and also some of the lower class Welsh, there are great numbers who can clearly and undeniably trace back to the old Welsh Princes, but who have in the process of time, and by some mysterious cause, dropped from their high estates, and are now lost to view amongst the throng whose numbers are ever increasing. I shall be pleased to give "AN ENQUIRER" any information in my power on any particular family, but to do so on Welsh families and the descendants of the Welsh Princes in general would occupy a great deal of time, and probably more space than you, Sir, would care to devote to this subject.

London.

X.Y.Z.

CURRENT NOTES.

The *North Wales Chronicle* says that Professor Reichel made his maiden speech in Welsh at Bangor on Wednesday. He only said a very few words.

The Rev. D. Morris, Bwan, Carnarvon, a well-known minister of the Calvinistic Methodist Denomination, died on Monday at an advanced age.

Messrs Hodder and Stoughton's announcements for the coming publishing season include "The Doctrine of the Atonement" by Lewis Edwards, D.D.

The parish church of the pretty little village of Morville, about two miles from Bridgnorth, was opened on Thursday evening, after restoration. The sermon was preached by the Rev Canon Lord Forester. A new organ chamber has been constructed for the reception of the organ presented to the Church by Mr Barkey Starkey.

The following is said to be an authenticated anecdote of Charles Darwin. It refers to his old age—the period when he was bringing out his books on the habits of plants. His health was failing, and an old family servant—a woman—overhearing his daughter express some anxiety about

his condition, sought to reassure her by saying, "Hi believe master 'd be hall right madam, hif 'e honly 'ad something to huccupy 'is mind; sometimes 'e stands in the conservatory from morning till night 'just a-lookin' at the flowers. Hif 'e honly 'ad somethin' to do, 'e 'd be hevver so much better I'm sure!"

The fifteenth annual conversazione of the Chester Society of Natural Science was held last week in the Grosvenor Museum, Chester. In the absence through indisposition of the Duke of Westminster, Professor T. McKenny Hughes presided.—The Kingsley Memorial medal, for "having contributed materially to the promotion and advancement of some branch or department of Natural Science," was awarded to Dr Stollerfoth, who has made the minute plant known as the diatomace his special study.—The Kingsley Memorial Prize was awarded to Mr R. Newstead, for the best collection of bees and wasps.—The ceremony of presenting the prizes was performed by the Duchess of Westminster. The chair was afterwards taken by the Bishop of Chester, and Professor McKenny Hughes read a geological paper entitled "Footprints on the Sands of Time."

The following are among "Leaves from our Early Issues," published in the *North Wales Chronicle* (Jan. 22 to Feb. 26, 1818)—"We understand it is in contemplation to establish, by voluntary subscription, a nightly watch in this city, (Bangor), some serious depredations having been recently committed. The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of the Diocese has subscribed £2 annually. The increasing population, the quantity of vagrants from its great thoroughfare, and the number of vessels trading to the port may seem to warrant the adoption of some such system; however, we must observe that the public peace of the streets has been greatly improved since the erection of the lock-up house. A meeting was held yesterday in the vestry-room of this Cathedral, when it was determined to establish, by public subscription, nightly patrols for this city and neighbourhood; as also to cause to be apprehended all persons found begging in the streets, and to punish or pass them to their several parishes. One-half the sum given by the house-keepers at their doors would effectually defray every expense."

A peculiar and ancient custom was observed last week at the funeral of Mrs Dyott, wife of Colonel Dyott, at Lichfield. For generations past it has been the custom of the Dyott family that all interments of its members within the family vault in St. Mary's Church should take place at night, and by torchlight, and the hearse, containing the remains of the deceased lady, and Colonel Dyott's private carriage, accompanied by torchbearers, started for Lichfield about nine o'clock at night. As the procession entered the city the flickering of the torches, the silent aspect of the crowd—which was very considerable along the line of route—and the muffled peal on the church bells, made the scene a very impressive one. At the church the cortège was met at the west door by Bishop Abraham, and the Revs. Canon Lonsdale, Prebendary Scott, and C.E. Hubbard. Bishop Abraham read the lesson, and the Rev. Canon Lonsdale conducted the service. The coffin was placed in the chancel, and the singing of the funeral hymn "Days and moments," concluded the first part of the service, and then the coffin was moved into the Dyott Chapel and lowered into the family vault.

Mr George W. Latham of Bradwall Hall, Cheshire, who represented Crewe Division in the last Parliament, died last week. He was born in 1827, was educated at Brasenose College, Oxford, and was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1852. For some time he went the

Chester and North Wales Circuit, but ultimately gave up the Bar and settled down to the life of a country gentleman at Bradwall Hall. Mr Latham interested himself in reformatory and industrial schools, and he also gave special attention to agriculture, greatly improving the condition of the tenantry upon his estates. He was vice-president of the Farmers' Alliance, and one of the most active members of the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture. He further took a large share in the magisterial work of his district. Mr Latham was an advanced Liberal in politics, and unsuccessfully contested Mid-Cheshire in 1872 against Colonel Egerton Leigh. In 1880 he again unsuccessfully contested the division, and once more in 1883. In 1885, however, he was returned as Liberal member for the new Crewe Division. In consequence of ill-health Mr Latham declined to come forward again for the seat at the General Election in June last. Both as a philanthropist and a public man he will be greatly missed in Cheshire. Mr Latham married, in 1856, Elizabeth Sarah, daughter of the Rev H. L. Johnson of Binderton-house, Sussex.

The *Gardeners' Chronicle* contains an account by Mr A. D. Webster, Llandegai, Bangor, of an experiment in tobacco culture in North Wales. Twelve kinds of tobacco were planted in fairly rich soil in a somewhat sheltered portion of Mr Webster's garden. When the tobacco had been harvested and had been a little more than a week under pressure, "a friend or two," says the writer, "called one evening, and, of course, tobacco culture was the text, the final results of which were that the Welsh grown 'weed' must there and then be tried. A piece was therefore procured, and, indeed, the appearance of it as regards colour was excellent, quite as good as a few minutes afterwards we found the taste. It is but fair to add, however, that the smoke was somewhat pungent, more so, at least, than the 'Amlwch' and 'Golden Cloud' smoked usually by my friends, and another peculiarity noticed by all was that the home-grown was slightly more narcotic in its effects than the foreign, but this we judged was due to the green state of the leaf as compared with the other. How it will ultimately turn out I know not, but from present looks I should say well, and will let you know a month later on. In conclusion I have not the least doubt, judging from my own experiments, that the culture of tobacco in the British Isles is of the simplest description, the only thing I am frightened of is that the harvesting of the crop will be difficult in our sunless clime—sunless, when compared with its native land—unless by the erection of light airy sheds in which to store and cure the leaves, for rain, after commencing the drying process, is ruinous to most samples. This difficulty is, however, readily enough overcome."

A CURIOSITY.—We have received through Mr G. R. Bayley, auctioneer, of Oswestry, a curiosity very rarely to be met with—a double ear of barley on a single stem, found on the farm of Mr John Downes of Rhandregynwen, Llandrinio.

THE LATE MR DAVID ROBERTS, founder of the Liverpool firm of timber merchants, David Roberts, Son, and Co., and father of Mr John Roberts, M.P., died at his residence, Tanrallt, Abergelle, at the age of eighty, on Sunday, Oct. 3. Born at Llanrwst, at the age of fifteen he went to Liverpool, and for more than fifty years has held a high position in the commercial world. He was one of the founders of the Bangor Normal College, and of the Bala Theological College. Mr Roberts, who was a magistrate for Denbighshire, was senior deacon of the Prince's-road Welsh Presbyterian Church, Liverpool, and the denomination owes much to his munificence. The funeral took

place at St. James's Cemetery, Liverpool, on Friday, in presence of an exceedingly large gathering. An address was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Owen Thomas.

DEATH OF MR W. MORRIS, OF DENBIGH.—We regret to record the death of Mr William Morris, of Gwilymfof, Denbigh, which occurred on Wednesday, at the age of 74. Before he came 30 years ago from Holywell to reside in Denbigh, he was intimately connected with the Conservative Church Press. He was editor and publisher of *Y Cymro*, a weekly newspaper, and "*Yr Eglwysydd*," a monthly magazine in Welsh, which were started by a Committee of clergy and laymen interested in the spread of Church principles in Wales. Mr Morris was an able and fluent speaker in English and Welsh. The deceased was a magistrate, and was also a member of the Town Council. His eldest son, the Rev Canon W. Morris, is at present chaplain to the Duke of Westminster, at Eaton Hall.

RE-OPENING OF LLANARMON M.M. CHURCH.

The little parish church of Llanarmon, after undergoing complete restoration, was re-opened on Thursday. Archdeacon Thomas, in his history of the diocese of St. Asaph, says the church is one of the ancient capellæ to Llanrhaiadr, under which it is included in both the Taxatio of 1291 and the Valor Ecclesiasticus of 1535. The district immemorably attached to it embraces an area of 2,590 acres, inclusive of 600 acres of common and ten of glebe. The old church, dedicated to St. Garmon, was very small, consisting of a chancel and nave, with a gallery at the west end. The services in 1750 were twice on Sunday in the summer and once in the winter. The registers up to the year 1720 used to be kept at the mother church, but since that time they had been kept distinct. The church has been re-built by Mr Pardo of Oswestry, from designs and under the superintendence of Mr W. H. Spaul, architect, of Oswestry and Shrewsbury. The church as restored is an exceedingly pretty one. Amongst the special donations were—a font given by the builder, an altar desk and two flower vases by the Misses Howles, a communion table by the architect, an altar cloth by Messrs J. Jones and Son, Oswestry, the making of a pair of Glastonbury chairs from the old oak of the church by Mr J. Humphreys, altar linen by Miss M. Rogers, suspending lamps by Mr Robert Morgans, Mr John Rogers, and Mr Allen Richards, Hafod, a pair of candlesticks by Mrs Evans, Tynymaes, a safe lock, Mr E. Shaw, Oswestry, alms dishes by Mr Owen of Tynycæau, kneelers, Mr Thomas Evans, book markers, Miss Dicker, a pulpit desk and candlesticks, the Rev D. Jones, Llanrhaiadr, a door mat, Mr Lloyd, Glasgow House, a harmonium by Miss Dicker, and a bible, prayer book and communion service, were given by the S.P.C.K.

The re-opening was celebrated by three services on Thursday, and at each the little church was quite filled to overflowing. At the morning service, which was in Welsh, the preacher was the Bishop of St. Asaph.

Subsequently a number of ladies and gentlemen sat down to luncheon at Plas Newydd, which had very hospitably been provided by the parishioners. The Ven. Archdeacon Thomas presided. The afternoon service was in English, and the preacher was the Ven. Archdeacon Thomas. In the evening the service was again in Welsh, the preacher being the Rev W. Morgan (Penfro). The services were continued during the week.

OPENING OF THE WHITCHURCH COTTAGE HOSPITAL.

The beautiful Cottage Hospital, which, architecturally, is such a singularly effective addition to the public build-

ings of Whitchurch, was opened on Saturday afternoon by Lord Kenyon. The building, in common with most good things in Whitchurch, owes its existence to the initiative and, very largely, the generous support of Major Lee, and is erected on an open space of ground off Brownlow-street, given by Earl Brownlow. The design is of great beauty, and, with its long tiled gables, and wood and plaster walls, the hospital is a most picturesque building. The wood-work is oak, and the panels are filled with Portland cement, rough cast. The building contains on the ground floor a male ward for three beds and a female ward for the same number. On the same floor there is also an isolated ward for one bed. The male and female wards, together with the nurse's room, which is between the wards, occupy the depth of the block; each ward as well as the nurse's room, has a south aspect, and the two wards derive additional light from windows placed one in the east wall and the other in the west wall. A verandah runs the length of the south side of the building, and the wards open on to it. Lavatories also open from the outer corners of each of the wards. The entrance hall, which has a rich panelled ceiling, is 15 feet square, and opens on the west side, and faces Brownlow-street. Further on is the inner hall, from which the wards, the nurse's room, the bath room, the operating room, and the medical store are approached. A capacious ventilating shaft runs from the inner hall to the roof, terminating in an ornamental turret. The shaft also serves the purpose of lighting the inner hall and the staircase. The isolated ward, which is distinct from the remainder of the offices, is approached by means of a corridor fitted with glazed sides. A passage leading from the entrance hall leads to the kitchen, scullery, pantry, and other offices, which are conveniently arranged and provided with two or three approaches. A staircase leads from the entrance hall to the upper floor, the principal feature of which is the convalescent ward, an exquisite room with a south aspect, which opens on to a pleasant balcony. On the same floor is a servants' bedroom and a store room. The larder, wash house, fuel store, mortuary, and disinfecting closet, are at the back of the hospital, and it is proposed in time to cover the now open space dividing them from the main building with glass. The wards are fourteen feet in height; over each door is placed a movable fanlight, and ventilation is further produced by the employment of Tobin's inlet ventilators, and of Boyd's outlet ventilators. The hospital is built from designs made by Mr E. W. Mountford, A.R.I.B.A., of London, and the work has been most admirably carried out by Mr R. Powell, of Whitchurch and Prees. The red bricks necessary for the work were supplied by Mr T. C. Howell, of Whitchurch. A large and representative committee, over which Major Lee presided, was at the outset formed for the purpose of promoting the success of the undertaking. Amongst the most active members of the committee were:—The Rev W. H. Egerton, rector of Whitchurch, Mr and Mrs R. T. Smith, Dr S. T. Gwynn, Dr A. B. George, Mrs Waugh, Miss Kent, Miss Dora Kent, Miss Mabel Egerton, Col. Rivers-Bulkeley, Mr T. H. Sandford, of Sandford, and Mrs Sandford. The committee having completed its work, an early meeting of the subscribers will be called for the election of a committee to superintend the working of the institution.

The opening ceremony took place on the south-west side of the newly-erected hospital, and in the presence of a large gathering. After speeches had been delivered by Major Lee, Dr Gwynn, Dr George, Mr Brownlow Tower, the Rev F. H. Naylor, Mr Ledsham, and the Rev W. H. Egerton, and a short service, Lord Kenyon declared the Hospital open.

OCTOBER 20, 1886.

NOTES.

A FIGURATIVE ENGLYN.—The following rather curious production by way of an Englyn was made by a young poet, and given me, in 1849, by him.

T.W.H.

"An English Arithmetical Enigma, in the form of a Welsh Englyn, amounting to the number of days in the year.

+ 11, 1. 7. U C, —2 & 4
8 & 5 yth 90;
Af—, 100 & 50,
39 tw—, & thr— 3.

OWEN ROBERTS (*Owain Aran.*)

Dolgelley.

THE POWIS FAMILY.—In an old book catalogue I have come across the following:—"Several methods of hearing Mass, with fruit and benefit according to the institution of that Divine Sacrifice and the intention of our Holy Mother the Church with motives to induce all good Christians, particularly religious persons to make use of the same Collected by the Rt. Hon. Lady Lucy Herbert, of Powis. Printed at Bruges in 1742." 1 vol 12 mo. calf. E.P. Brecknock.

OSWESTRY BELLRINGERS.—Turning over some papers the other day I came across an old book containing several lists of subscriptions raised apparently to pay the bellringers of the town for their services in ringing the Parish Church bells on occasion of news of victories gained over Napoleon I. in the early part of the century. The lists may interest some of your readers.

Below is a copy of one page. The signatures in many cases are autograph.

The notes are mine, made from information given me by an aged resident now deceased. Hoose.

Subscriptions received on the 27th November, 1813. Account of the defeat of the French at Leipsic with the loss of 100 000 men, and Hanau with the loss of 30,000. Holland Free; Hanover restored; Soult defeated by Lord Wellington is at Bourdeaux, Dresden in the hands of the Allies, commotions in France. All the vessels at Bourdeaux, amounting to 500, including 135 American, taken by Lord Wellington & Admiral George Collier, &c.

Mayor,		Ow. Owen.....	2 6
John Croxon,		9 Th. L. Jones.....	2 6
Coroner	5 0	Jno. Hurleston.....	2 6
R. Cartwright, Esq. 10	6 5	Richd. Bill.....	2 6
E. Edmunds, Esq. 5	0 6	David Thomas.....	2 6
Mr Farr	5 0	7 Robert Gough ...	1 0
1 Thos. Hilditch	2 6	Richd. Croxon	2 6
W. Bickerton	2 6	8* Lewis Jones	2 6
Henry Wild	1 6	* Edw. Croxon	2 6
2 Edwd. Edwards ...	2 6	Mr Smith	2 6
3 Willm. Leigh	2 6		
4 S. Luck	5 0		3 13 0
Rev. Js. Donne.....	5 0	* Not paid.....	5 0
H. P. Tozer Aubrey	5 0		
Rev. P. Roberts ...	2 6	Carried forward	3 13 0

1 Mercer. 2 Attorney. 3 Wynnstay Arms. 4 Llanforda. 5 Mrs Smales's father. 6 Late E. Wynne Thomas's father, a Draper. 7 Flaxdresser. 8 Town Clerk. 9 Mr Thos. L. Longueville's father.

EPITAPHS IN HAWARDEN CHURCHYARD (Sept. 1, 1886).—In a late contribution to *Bye-Gones* I gave a few of the epitaphs in this churchyard. Perhaps a further supply, which will not by many degrees exhaust the subject, will not be altogether uninteresting. On a boy's grave, aged 4 years and 7 months, are the following lines:—

In the midst of play,
He was call'd away,
To brighter realms above,
From parents dear,
To mansions clear,
The abode of endless love.

On the tombstone of a young man who died in 1793, aged 25, are these:—

He like a Lilley fresh and Green
Soon was cut down and no more seen.

The head stone of a grave, erected in 1845, has on it this stanza:—

No verse of praise write on my tomb,
Since there's a judgment yet to come.
Leave all to God, who justly knows,
And more than we deserve, bestows.

The sentiment contained in these words is, although a quiet reflection upon fulsome epitaphs, a hopeful one for the dead on whose memorial stone they appear, for we are informed that God bestows more than we deserve, and hence He will have mercy on the deceased, who desires not a verse of praise on his tombstone.

That the reflection cast upon fulsome praise of the dead in the stanza here given was not undeserved can be shewn by innumerable grave stone verses in this churchyard. I will give a few such:—

Mourn not for me 'tis all in vain
Though great your loss, greater my gain.

Again on another stone, dated 1827, to the memory of a young man, aged 25:—

I was young, and in my Bloom,
And was cut off, so very soon,
I've left a sinful world behind
A crown of glory for to find.

And once again to a person, aged 68, date 1839:—

A soul prepared needs no delays.
The summons comes, the saint obeys,
Swift was his flight, and short the road
He closed his eyes, and saw his God.
The flesh rests here till Jesus come,
To claim the treasure from the tomb.

The following lines contrast somewhat favourably with the full assurance of the foregoing verses, for they contain a *hope* only. They are on a head stone bearing date 1824:—

Go home our Friends, and sheed no tears
here we must lie till Christ appears
and when he comes we hope to have
A Joyful Rising From the grave.

Although a captious reader might sneer at verses of this kind still they are not to be despised, and they are vastly better than a mere name and two dates. They contain within themselves much that is suggestive, and in many cases they are highly appropriate, and even historic.

With one inscription of a kind different from those already given, I bring my remarks to a close. On a free stone lying on the ground close to the churchyard wall facing the Rectory in bold capital letters is the following inscription:—

HERE LYETH THE
BODY OF IONATHAN
FRANCIS OF HA
WARDEN WHO
DEPARTED THIS
LIFE THE FIFTE
ENTH DAY OF MA
CRH IN THE YEARE
OF OVR LORD GOD

TL 16 82 AL



This was the oldest inscription that I observed in the churchyard, but others older might have escaped my attention. E.O.

OLD WILLS.—There are no documents more valuable to the historian and antiquary who wishes to give accuracy to his chronicles of ancient times than ancient wills. Pedigrees, so fashionable now-a-days, can only be built up with any degree of reliability by reference to wills and administrations. Registers of baptisms and deaths are often simply misleading unless corroborated by wills. The wills of olden days were very different in some respects from those of recent times. The testator is almost without exception a Churchman, and after reciting that "though sicke in bodie he is sounde in minde," proceeds at once to commend his soul to God and his body to be buried in the parish churchyard. Then follow gifts, often of a few pence only, to the "reparation" of the cathedral church of his Diocese and the parish church, and some small gift to the poor of his parish. "Forgotten Tithe" often claims a memory in his conscience. Then we have the devise of his freeholds with limitations and charges on same, giving valuable information as to the ownership of property and values of rentals. The devise of freeholds involves mention in the specification of the succession, of many members of his family. Then comes the devise of chattels generally to other members of the family, giving often an insight into the manners and customs of the time, as when Dame Price, in 1571, leaves to her daughter her "beste cassock, beste petticoat," and her "kyrtle of taffita," or instructs her "overeers," "to disburse for my soule's healthe as God shall putt him in mynd." Another speaks of his Vicar as "his ghostlie father." Another leaves 3s. 4d. to Hugh ap Richard "to praie for me and my husband, and all Christian soules"—and so on. Many testators, too, seem anxious that the names of all their children and relatives should appear in their will, and to effect this leave them the traditional shilling each. Then we have the names of executors, overseers, and witnesses, the whole forming a document full of exact personal

family history not discoverable elsewhere. Where are these ancient wills (say prior to 1700) to be found, and how do we gain access to them? Generally speaking, country wills are deposited in the various Diocesan Probate Registries or Consistory Courts. But there are many exceptions. Certain Deaneries were "peculiar," and entitled to admit to probate all wills within their bounds. In some cases, but not all, these wills have, in recent times, been placed in the Diocesan Registries or the District Registries. A few wills are to be found at the British Museum and the Record Office, more at the College of Arms, and a large number of City of London wills at the Guildhall. Lastly we have the great depository, Somerset House, into which have filtered ancient wills from all parts of England and Wales. How to gain access to these documents? Passing over the British Museum, where the "reader" can work from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., with admirable light, space, comfortable seats, pens, ink, and blotter, and unlimited attendance, all free of cost, and the Record Office, where not even a ticket is required, as containing only a few scattered wills, and the Guildhall, where the catalogue by Aldeschin is in MS., and only producible by special application to the Corporation, we come to the College of Arms. Here we have to deal with a close corporation in the hands of a number of Heralds jealous of public investigation and jealous of each other. It is the interest of individual Heralds to keep each their information and researches to themselves, and to bring each as much grist, in the shape of fees and charges, to his own mill as possible; so that to the ordinary literary compiler or enquirer this grand collection of national documents is virtually a sealed book. This is not as it should be. If the institution is a private one then let it be clearly so understood. If it is public property, purchased with national money, then let the nation have free access to such of its records as are purely historical. Now turn to Somerset House. Here, at least, in the great centre of civilization of the world, we might expect to find that literary enquiry will meet with some encouragement. But what are the facts? In the first place permission must be applied for in writing to Sir James Hannen, and some days may elapse before a ticket can be issued. The ticket must be renewed every six months. When provided with his permit the reader will wend his way to the Registrars' Seats Room, No. 8, second floor, down stairs, an insignificant small place (two rooms thrown into one), in such a noble building. There he will find the Assistant Registrar, who will do his best to give him a seat, but there only being twelve seats in all, he may have to wait a day or two for a vacancy. If he is a patient man he will wait an hour or two, doing a little work at the calendars, perhaps, and then perhaps he may get the place of some reader who has failed to keep his appointment. If he lives in London, and has time at his disposal, he will ask the Registrar to give him a seat for a few days during some future week not yet filled up. The Registrar, who has nearly 100 occasional readers to deal with, does his best to treat all who come as fairly as possible, and if unwearied patience and untiring courtesy could give success he would succeed. Till quite recently he had only at his disposal

accommodation for six readers. Now the number of seats is twelve, and an additional porter is employed. The regulations limit the number of books to be taken out by any one reader per diem to 8, and this, considering the huge size and weight of the volumes of copies, is not an unreasonable limit. These necessary limitations, coupled with the fact that there are generally two to four or more volumes of copies for each year, render search through any considerable number of years almost an impossibility to any one not residing in London. The difficulty is also much increased by the imperfection of the early Calendars (lists of Testators). Down to about 1620 the county and parish are rarely given, so that many a useless search is made before these are ascertained. An experienced reader, if in doubt of the entry in the Calendar, will look in the Probate Acct. Book, where he will find the parish, county, and diocese given. But to any one unaccustomed to read them, the older Acct. Books, which are all in Latin and full of abbreviations, will be very difficult to decipher. One of the first wants of the Literary Search Department is a new Calendar. The present Registrar, Mr J. Challenor Smith, has by indefatigable personal labour, extending over many years, examined personally every will down to 1558, and the publication of his work would save an enormous amount of labour to searchers and porters, and of wear and tear to the volumes of copies. The office closes at 3 30 (earlier in winter), so that the day's work (4 to 5 hours) is a very short one.

And these privileges such as they are, are only of twenty years' standing. Surely these old wills might be treated as other ancient records and placed in a suitable depository with tramways to run out the ponderous volumes between commodious tables seated on both sides. More light, more time, and more attendance are what is required. For the casual searcher unprovided with a pass things are much worse. He must get a stamp to pay for permission to search the Calendar—then another fee for production of the volume he requires. He is then allowed to peruse, and may carry away all he can in his head, but must take no notes. If he wants an extract he can have it by paying a further fee—or a copy of the whole will at so much per folio. And whether his search or perusal occupies him a long or short time, he (or she) will have to remain standing the whole time—not a seat or a table is to be seen in the Public Offices—only desks at which the public may stand and rest themselves by shifting from one leg on to the other. But how about the Country Registries in which the bulk of the country wills still lie? The reader has in this case to apply in a similar manner to Sir James Hannen, and receives a somewhat similar pass except that it is granted subject to the regulations in force at the particular Registry and the accommodation existing there. The reader here also is sure to meet with courtesy. He will probably find no fellow-readers at work. Some Registries have bound copies of early wills but no originals. Where this is the case the reader will probably be allowed to peruse those volumes free of charge. Other Registries will have originals, but no copies prior to 1660. In this case the production of the originals, often mildewed, rotten, or rat-eaten, is a serious matter, and the Registrar may deem it necessary to make some charges.

Clerks in the Country Registries are generally fully employed, so that they cannot well be spared to assist readers or produce originals. Hence the necessity for limiting the inquiries by charging a fee. Most registries, however, have bound copies carefully indexed and readily accessible, of all wills since 1660. It is the opinion of most Country Registrars that all wills and copies prior to 1700, or even later, should be transferred to Somerset House, where facilities could be given for literary searches and enquiry. At the Country Registries, as at Somerset House, the early calendars often contain only the names of the testator without parish or county, and much useless searching consequently results. Some Registries have their early originals, either inaccessible or in such bad condition as to be unfit to handle, and the searcher has the mortification of knowing that what he wants to see is there but unavailable. The old calendars, too, are unreliable, and many a search is made for a will which long ago has been used up as old paper to light a fire or stuff a hole in a broken window, or as was not at all uncommon formerly, given away to some private person as a favour. Here again the Treasury might well grant the Department funds to undertake the work of providing the necessary skilled labour to examine, classify, index, and take abstracts of these damaged originals now inaccessible. And in these Registries, as well as at Somerset House, the early calendars should be compared with copies and originals, and once for all re-written, giving the parishes and counties to which the testator belonged. An additional appropriation of, say £1,000, per annum for a very few years would suffice to place the Literary Enquiry Department upon a satisfactory footing, and at the same time to classify and calendar and render accessible all ancient wills, whether at Somerset House or in the country. There is plenty of room at Somerset House for an Ancient Wills Reference Library, and once established, a very small annual charge would suffice to keep it up. A nation that can spend £70,000 upon a couple of pictures need not hesitate to undertake such a moderate work in the interests of antiquarian research.

Conway.

H. L. SQUIRES.

QUERIES.

MACHYNLLETH.—Llanfyllin and Montgomery have had Old Charters from the Crown and of late renewed. Has Machynlleth ever had a Charter? And if so, where is a copy to be found? OWAIN.

PARK (Sep. 22, 1886).—A correspondent asked a question about this a few weeks ago. I should like to know why the place was called "Park." Were there at one time palings surrounding the farm, like around Powis Castle park now? Is there any lingering tradition in the neighbourhood that it was once enclosed in the way suggested above? QUERIST.

REPLIES.

WELSH PLACE NAMES IN EAST ANGLIA (August 25, 1886).—Cambridge very probably derives its name from the River Cam, and *cam* is undoubtedly good Welsh for crooked. But the name of the town in Romano-Celtic times was *Durocobrivis*,

which like most of the river-towns of England has relation to its natural situation. I may also state that the syllable *Man*, attached to several places in this country, is taken by Professor Rhys to be the mark of a people who were not Celtic at all. E. OWEN.

CURRENT NOTES.

A tragedy by Mr Lewis Morris, entitled "Gycia," has been published.

At a meeting of the Common Council of the City of London held at the Guildhall, on Thursday, the Lord Mayor presiding, a resolution was carried unanimously that the Honorary Freedom of the City be presented in a casket to Mr H. M. Stanley, in recognition of his services on opening up to this country new fields for commercial enterprises.

A recent number of the *Builder* contains a view of the new Church about to be erected at Rossett. It states that the new building is to take the place of a building of no architectural interest, erected at the beginning of the present century. The plan is arranged to accommodate in nave and aisles 497 worshippers. The central tower, which is the dominant feature in the exterior view, gives interest also to the interior of the chancel. Messrs Douglas and Fordham of Chester are the architects, and Messrs Davies Brothers of Wrexham the contractors, for the works.

CHEAP FRUIT.—We are informed that ninety pounds of damsons were sold at Ellesmere last week for a shilling, and ninety quarts at Oswestry, on Wednesday, for 1s. 9d.

SMOKY-FACED CATTLE.—Mr E. Pugh, of Stableford, Bridgnorth, Salop, has sold his small selected herd of smoky-faced, or Montgomeryshire cattle, to Mr Allender, the managing director of the Aylesbury Dairy Company, for their farms in Sussex. Mr Pugh sold his herd of upwards of 100 head, at the Newton, near Bishop's Castle, Salop, twelve months ago, whence Mr Allender procured a few cows, whose milking capabilities have proved eminently satisfactory.

BULL BAITING IN SHROPSHIRE.—Bull-baiting was a most popular sport at wakes in North Shropshire. Many septuagenarian labourers may yet be met with who have witnessed a bull-bait in their youth. One such man, James Grice of Myddle, described (in 1878) a bull-baiting at Loppington at which he had been present when a boy as 'the most barbarous act I ever saw. It was a young bull, and had very little notion of tossing the dogs, which tore his ears and the skin off his face in shreds, and his mournful cries were awful. I was up in a tree, and was afraid the earth would open and swallow us all up.' Oakengates, in the collieries, which enjoyed the reputation of possessing the most largely attended wake in the county, held on the green in the beginning of October, can boast also the unenviable distinction of having been (it is believed) the scene of the last bull-baiting in Shropshire, which took place in the year 1833. Many savage bull-baitings, it is related, took place at Madeley wakes, which were latterly celebrated chiefly at Ironbridge, the busy little town in the parish of Madeley. The bull was baited three times on each of the three days—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; first at the Horse Inn, Lincoln Hill, then in front of the Tontine Inn at Ironbridge, and thirdly at Madeley Wood Green. So says (1886) an old man of seventy-one, whose father and elder brother were the ring-leaders of the sports. The last bull-baiting held at Madeley was put astop to by a body of constables, headed by a magistrate—Mr Anstice of Madeley Wood—who was accompanied and instigated by Mr Mortimer, the vicar of

the parish. Their names deserve to be recorded; for it was an act of great bravery to face the excited mob of colliers and bargemen, who, though they fought each other every market day, were ready to make common cause against the disturbers of their cruel sport. The parson, who was the moving spirit, was a little deformed man; and, such is the latent chivalry of Englishmen, that it was attributed to this that the crowd did not attack the authorities.—*Miss Burne's Shropshire Folk-Lore (Just completed).*

CHURCH PROPERTY IN THE DIOCESE OF LICHFIELD.

An important work has just been completed in the diocese of Lichfield. At the Diocesan Conference two years ago the Bishop called attention to the danger there existed of Church property becoming lost through want of any accurate record of its amount and character in individual parishes; and directed that an inquiry should be made with a view to obtain a complete return of all such property. This has now been accomplished, and the diocese will for the future possess a record, probably unique, of all kinds of Church property in each parish throughout the diocese. The returns include houses, buildings, and glebe, as well as endowments of all kinds, including pew rents where they exist, and the customary table of fees. There is also an exhaustive schedule of the Communion plate, stating the material, dimensions, and weight of each article, with the inscription, if any. There is a list of registers, specifying the period which each volume covers, and the condition of the registers themselves, and, lastly, there is a table of benefactions connected with each church, including all parochial charities. The returns, which are all made on similar forms, are bound up in three large volumes, one for each of the three archdeaconries, and were presented to the Bishop on the occasion of the annual meeting of rural deans a short time ago. Each incumbent, for the future, on entering upon his benefice will find a duplicate return in the parish chest. Similarly he will hand it to his successor. The work has been carried through under the direction of the Diocesan Council and by the active co-operation of the archdeacons and rural deans. But the burden of the work and the immediate superintendence of details has rested with the Archdeacon of Stafford, to whom the success of the undertaking is in a large measure due.

THE SOCIETY FOR UTILISING THE WELSH LANGUAGE.

(Sep. 22, 1886.)

The first meeting of the new council was recently held at the University College, Cardiff, the Rev Aaron Davies being chairman pro tem. It was stated that the following members of the Council had been formally appointed by the Cymmrodorion Society, London:—Mr D. Williams, Training College, Swansea, Mr T. W. James, 52, St. George's terrace, Swansea, Mr W. E. Davies, London, Mr Ellis Jones Griffiths, M.A., Downing College, Cambridge, Mr Owen Lewis (Owain Dyfed), London, Mr John E. Powell, Wrexham, Mr J. R. Griffiths, Board School, Cardigan, Mrs A. Walter Thomas, St. Anne's, Bangor, Mr Daniel Thomas, Upper Board Schools, Rhymney. The Council further appointed the following as additional members:—The Rev D. J. Davies, North Benfleet Rectory, Mr Llywarch Reynolds, Merthyr, Mr James Harris, editor *Red Dragon*, Mr F. Sonley Johnstone, editor *South Wales Daily News*, Professor J. E. Lloyd, Aberystwyth, Mr Wm. Evans, Chester, Mr R. Iwan Jenkyn, Cefnfaes Board School, Mr T. E. Ellis, M.P., Major Evan Rowland Jones, American

Consul, Cardiff, and Mr. Howel Thomas, Local Government Board, London. This completes the full complement of 41 members of the new council. Archdeacon Griffiths was unanimously re-elected chairman of the council on a ballot being taken. The question of the proposed Reserve Fund occupied the attention of the council for some time. A letter was read from Sir W. T. Lewis, intimating that, the objects of the society having been brought under the notice of the Marquis of Bute, his lordship had generously intimated his readiness to subscribe £100, thus raising the proposed fund to £600. A number of gentlemen undertook to collect or subscribe £5 each towards the same purpose. The Secretary was authorised to call personally upon some Cardiff members to collect their subscriptions, and to invite their assistance in securing the Reserve Fund. The treasurer was instructed to take immediate steps for registering the society under the provisions of the Board of Trade. It was decided to hold the next meeting at an early date in the Rhondda Valley.

OCTOBER 27, 1886.

NOTES.

OLD SHROPSHIRE WILLS.—Extract from a Curious Shropshire Will, dated 1507.—24 Adeane (*Somerset House Register*).—John Roberts of Wylmington, in the parish of Chirbury, whose will is dated February 6, 1507, proved at Lambeth, June 9, same year, directed that his body should be buried in Chirbury Church, and he bequeathed “to the edificacon of the Stepill *vili. xiijs. iiijd.* Itm. to the high Aucter of Churbury *xijd.* Itm. to the Vicare of Churbury *xijd.* Itm. to the fynding of a preeste for *iiij* monthes to p'forme myn yer *xxvijs. viijd.* Itm. aboute the funeral costes and expences about my burying *vij.* torches *10l.* *xxvj.* tap'rs, price, the torches *xxd.* a p'ce, the tap's *xvd.* It. my wynding schet *ijs. iiijd.* It. a blacke cloth with a white crosse to sett upon the tombe *iijs.* It. at dirge to preests and clerks *vijjs. iiijd.* It. to the ringers of the knyll and to the poore people ther *ijs.* It. to the freers of Schamsbury for a Trentall *ijs. vid.* It. Brede *xxvijs.* It. in ale *xixs.* It. in buff and motton *xvijs. viijd.* It. in small cades (1) w't cheste *xiijs. ivd.* It. John ap Thomas *ij. oxen.* It. to Humfrey ap Thomas *ij. oxen.* It. to Gruffith ap Thomas *ij. oxen.* It. to Hugh ap D'd *ij. oxen.* It. to Katerny Verch D'd *ij. oxen.* It. to Margaret Verch Richard *ij. oxen.* It. to Katerny Verch Richard *ij. oxen.* It. *iiij.* calvys price *ijs.* apece to the *iiij.* children of my newew John Walter. It. to Matthew ap Thomas *ij. oxen.* It. to d'd ap John *ij. oxen.* It. to Agnes Verch John a yerling calfe. The residue of all my goods's, my costs and debts truly content and paid, I will it be at the rule and disposi'con of Elen my wief. John Robert and John ap Thomas, whych I doe ordeyne and make myn executores and soe they to have full power and auctoritie to make levey of all my debts, and to dispose theym for the helthe of my soull as they most seme best, afr. the sight of Hugh bedward Mathe ap Deu (?) Bayly and Roger Bady superimposes—In witness hereof to this my last will I putt my seale the day and year before said.”

PEARMAIN.

(1) I am not certain that this is the word represented by the letters in the text, but I think it is. It may mean “Caddies.”

CELEBRATION OF CORONATION OF GEORGE IV. IN OSWESTRY.—In connection with the forthcoming Royal Jubilee it will be interesting to give extracts from a contemporary account of the celebration of the Coronation in 1821:—

At 7 o'clock on 14th July, 1821, “three oxen weighing about 30 score each were exhibited in front of the shops of the following butchers:—One at Mr James Williams's, one at Mr W. Howell's, both of Bailey-street, and the other at Mr Lewis's at the Cross. About 9 o'clock the oxen were cut up at the above places, and given out to above 500 individuals in portions of about 3 lbs. each. Soon after 10 o'clock the Bailey Head was crowded with respectable persons of the town and neighbourhood to join the Corporation in walking to church. About eleven o'clock the procession (marshalled under the superintendence of Mr H. Hughes, and Mr Edwards of the Unicorn) left the above place for church in the following order:—

A Splendid Flag, borne by four men.
The Band.

The Colours of the Oswestry Incorporated Companies
of Cordwainers, Tailors,
Weavers and Breeches-Makers,
The Rev. J. W. Bourke, Vicar, and the
Rev. J. Russell, Curate of Oswestry,
in their Gowns.

Two Municipal Officers, each carrying a Mace.
The Mayor and Corporation in their Civic Robes,
And wearing Coronation Medals.
The Gentry and respectable Inhabitants of the Town and
Neighbourhood, Wearing Medals, three abreast.
The Children (upwards of 400) taught in the National
Schools, two abreast.

“The concourse of people assembled to witness the procession was immense. The different streets through which it passed were crowded to excess; and the windows were all filled with elegantly dressed females, which contributed in no slight degree to the interesting appearance of the scene. The anxiety to obtain seats in the church was most intense, and in a few minutes almost every seat was occupied, and the aisles rendered almost impassable. An energetic and truly appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. J. W. Bourke, from the 1st Book of Samuel, 12th ch. 25th verse; in the course of which the Rev. Gentleman took occasion to animadvert with considerable force on the conduct of the factions in promulgating blasphemous and seditious publications, and pronounced a just and eloquent eulogium on the public conduct of our revered monarch. The whole of the Rev. Gentleman's discourse was listened to with the most profound attention, and we believe there was not one present to whom it did not prove a source of high gratification. A request has or is about, we understand, to be made to the worthy divine to allow it to be published, with which, as lovers of our country and anxious for the promotion of loyal and constitutional feeling, we hope he will comply. In Church-street, Cross-street, and at the Cross, the procession halted, and rent the air with reiterated shouts of ‘Huzza’ and ‘God save the King.’ On arriving at the Bailey Head a loud and general huzzinga took place.”

“About half-past two o'clock the children belonging to the National Schools proceeded to the Bowling-Green at the Wynnstay Arms. Excellent roast beef and plum pudding were provided in great plenty, of which the children heartily partook. After this a half-pint of ale was given to each of them, and subsequently a glass of wine, and portions of fruit. This scene—upwards of four hundred children, under the cloudless canopy of heaven,

the sun beaming with the brightest effulgence, was the most interesting we ever beheld." The proceedings were further enlivened by public dinners at the Wynn-stay Arms, Queen's Head, Fighting Cocks, Duke of York, Sun, and Unicorn, and finally "At seven o'clock six barrels of ale were given to the populace; two were given out at the Cross, two at the Bailey Head, and two near the Sun Tavern. A large assemblage collected at each of these places to partake of the ale, and several severe scuffles ensued, but happily no accident whatever took place."

OLD OSWESTRY.

QUERIES.

THE AUBREYS OF BROOMHALL.—Can any of the readers of *Bye-Gones* tell me whether the Aubreys of Broomhall, near Oswestry, were a branch of the Wiltshire and Breconshire Aubreys? E.P. Brecknock.

REPLIES.

LLAMEREWIG OR LLANMEREWIG (Sep. 1, 1886).—I give all the information I can gather from the few books in my possession, beginning with the most modern, which contains the usual spelling:—

1. Clergy List for 1883

"Llanmerewig, R. *Montg.* Newtown. . . St. A. E. M. Jones, 1878, Bp. of Llandaff, Val. £139. Pop. 158."

2. Lewis's Topographical Dictionary—Wales.

"Llanmerewig (Llan-yr-ewig) a parish &c. formerly a chapelry within the parish of Llanwchrair . . . on the river Mule . . . Church dedicated to St. Llŵchrair . . . remains of a Roman camp . . . Roman road in the lower part of the parish, &c."

3. Ecton's Thesaurus MDCLXIII. under "Livings discharged," p. 487.

"35. 00:00. Llanmerewig R. St. Llŵchrair, *Lactual.* xxd Bishop of St. Asaph. 00:13:43."

There is nothing to substantiate the *m* of Llanmerewig in any of these extracts however. If, as Lewis gives, Llan yr-ewig is the explanation of the name, I ask what or who is *Ewig*? YF-DDWFR.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Rev. John Davies (Davies of Cwmaman) died a few days ago at the age of 78.

The *British Architect* for Oct. 22, contains a pretty illustration of Malpas parish church, sketched by Mr T. Raffles Davison.

Last week, Mr Lewis Morris gave an address at Birmingham in his capacity as president of the newly-formed "Undeb y Brythoniaid, Birmingham," or Birmingham Welsh Society. In the course of his address, Mr Lewis Morris attributed the fact that Welshmen were nowhere in the race for the offices, honours, and rewards of the empire, to the fact that they were handicapped by the exclusive use of a language which was not that of the dominant races in these islands; and he went on to argue that there were other means of conserving the language than that of attempting to teach the children in their primary schools two languages at once. He dwelt upon the need for further developing the educational machinery in Wales by the provision of intermediate schools.

NEWTOWN OLD PARISH CHURCH.—A complete floor of fourteenth century tiles, in excellent preservation, has been discovered in this church. It is hoped that the restoration of the church will be proceeded with in a short time.

THE LATE MR JOHN BRANDT, C.E.—The death is announced of Mr John Brandt, C.E., at Birkenhead. The deceased gentleman was for many years a resident in Shrewsbury. He superintended the erection of Kingsland Bridge from the designs of Mr H. Robertson. Mr Brandt was one of the founders of the Shropshire Horticultural Society, in which he took keen interest. He was a member of the Town Council for Stone Ward Without. He held the position of quartermaster-sergeant in the Shropshire Artillery during the time Colonel Field of Shelton Priory was in command, and was greatly respected by his fellow officers and the men of the battalion. He was also a member of the Pengwern Boat Club, where his genial and kindly manner made him very popular among the members. He left Shrewsbury nearly two years ago for Birkenhead, where he had since been engaged as engineer for the Wirral Railway.

DEATH OF THE REV J. ROBINSON.—The Rev J. Robinson, Baptist minister, Trebrys, Llansilin, died somewhat suddenly on Sunday, October 17, at the age of 72. The reverend gentleman commenced his ministry some fifty years ago, in Anglesey, where he was exceedingly popular. Thousands thronged after him from every part of the island, and during his stay there he baptized some hundreds of persons. About forty years ago he removed to Llansilin, where he laboured with much success. When in the zenith of his popularity about 20 years ago, no anniversary or association meetings were considered complete without him. He was widely known both in North and South Wales, and was highly respected. After the new Burials Act came into operation, the Vicar of the parish offered him his pulpit to officiate at a funeral, and probably he was the first Nonconformist minister who officiated in a Church of England pulpit after the passing of the Act. Although loyal to his own denomination he was always ready to assist in every good work. He was a member of the Llanrhaiadr School Board, from its formation up to 1884, when failing health compelled him to retire. About 30 years ago he began to preach in the village of Llanrhaiadr, and chiefly through his exertions a commodious chapel has been built there, at which for many years he gave his pastoral services gratuitously. The remains of the deceased minister were interred in the family grave in Llanrhaiadr Churchyard on Thursday, a large concourse of ministers, neighbours, and friends attending.

PRESENTATION TO THE MAYOR AND MAYORESS OF WREXHAM.

At the Guildhall, Wrexham, on Wednesday, the borough member, the Hon. G. T. Kenyon, the borough justices, and the members and officials of the corporation, presented the popular Mayor, Alderman W. E. Samuel, and his esteemed wife, with a silver bowl and a silver salver on the occasion of the birth of a son during His Worship's year of mayoralty. The bowl was a very handsomely chased oval of Queen Anne design, richly embossed with Acanthus leaves and festooned, with the Red Dragon head of Wales at each end supporting chaste wreath-handles, and bore a suitable inscription.—The presentation took place at one o'clock, the company including most of the leading townsmen. Mr Councillor John Prichard presided, and in making the presentation said that during his term of office the worthy Mayor had done his duty in such a manner as to command the entire respect and esteem of his fellow-townsmen and had won the confidence of all with whom he came in contact.—The Mayor suitably acknowledged the presentation.—Other congratulatory speeches followed, and the Mayor and Mayoress afterwards gave a luncheon at the Wynn-stay Arms Hotel.

THE CHINA CHALLENGE VASE.

On Wednesday the China Challenge Vase, won by the representative team of the Shropshire Shooting Club at Wimbledon, was presented by the club to the Earl of Bradford, Lord-Lieutenant of the county, who is the president of the club. Members of the two battalions of Shropshire Rifles and of the Artillery Volunteers assembled at the Drill Hall, Shrewsbury, at noon, and the cup, which is valued at 400 guineas, was placed upon a gun carriage, and the members of the different branches of volunteers forming guards of honour, it was carried to the Market Square, where a platform was erected, and the presentation took place.—Captain J. Harcourt Browne, captain of the team, in the name of the club, presented his lordship with the vase, and asked him to present the members of the winning team with the badges they had also won.—His lordship having formally received the vase, presented the badges. He expressed his appreciation of the honour conferred upon him, and congratulated the gallant team and the volunteers of the county generally upon their having won so very handsome and valuable a prize. He was sure it would be an encouragement to them, and he hoped they would win it another year.—The presentation was witnessed by a great crowd, but the proceedings were sadly marred by a continuous downpour. Subsequently the volunteers present partook of luncheon at the Lion Hotel, under the presidency of the Earl of Bradford; Mr R. J. More, M.P., also being present.

PRESENTATION OF SIR WATKIN'S PORTRAIT TO MERIONETHSHIRE.

On Tuesday, Oct. 19, advantage was taken of the assembly of magistrates in Quarter Sessions at Bala to present the county of Merioneth with a portrait of the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P. Mr R. D. Pryce, lord-lieutenant of the county, took the chair, and there was an unusually large attendance of magistrates. The portrait cost one hundred guineas, and has been painted in oils by Mr F. B. Barwell, from a photograph and from the painting by Mr Herkomer at Wynnstay.

The LORD-LIEUTENANT, upon taking the chair, said that before the magistrates proceeded with the transaction of county business they had a pleasing duty to perform, and he begged to call on the High Sheriff.

Mr W. R. M. WYNNE, Peniarth, the high sheriff, said: Captain Pryce and gentlemen—It is with a feeling of great pleasure, but mingled with it there is a sense of melancholy, that I accede to a request made to me by the magistrates who have subscribed to a portrait of the late Sir Watkin to ask the county of Merioneth to accept it as a memorial of the late baronet. Remembering as I do the great kindness of my very dear and very much lamented relative, and the fact that in the restoration of this hall he took the deepest interest almost up to the last day of his life, I cannot but feel, as I have said, a touch of melancholy on the occasion of the presentation of his portrait. As you know, or at least most of you know, this portrait has been painted in circumstances of great difficulty—(hear, hear)—because the artist never saw our departed friend in life. It has been painted from a portrait presented to Lady Wynn by friends and also from a photograph lent Mr Barwell the artist. I have not yet seen the portrait, but I hope and trust that it may be such a likeness as at any rate will perpetuate to future magistrates and future generations the features and the memory of one who was thoroughly beloved throughout the whole of North Wales. (Hear, hear.) It is not for me to enlarge upon the excellent qualities of

our late friend. They were known throughout this county long before I was in a position to take part in public business. But I may say this, and I say it with pride as a relative and with satisfaction also, that Sir Watkin so trod the path of daily life that he was beloved by people of every position in this county; that, although he was an ardent politician, he never allowed politics to interfere with private friendship; and that in every position he held he always endeavoured to do the best he could for his native country and for all the inhabitants of it. (Hear, hear.) The magistrates have done their best to secure a worthy representation of him; and it is a pleasure to me to know that it will be hung in the County Hall here at Bala in the restoration of which he took so deep an interest, and remembering too the struggle he made to bring about a return to the former arrangement by which Quarter Sessions were held at Bala alternately with Dolgelly. I am sure Sir Watkin himself, had he been alive, would have wished it hung in the Shire Hall at Bala. (Hear, hear.) Before ending these remarks I am desired by the Dowager Lady Williams Wynn, to express to you and to all who subscribed, the great gratitude she feels for this indication of the deep affection entertained for her husband's memory; and I have no doubt Sir Watkin will tell you presently that it has also pleased him greatly. It is unnecessary for me to go further into the subject. On behalf of the magistrates of Merioneth who have subscribed to this memorial, and in my official capacity as high sheriff, I have now great pleasure in requesting you, sir, to accept this portrait of our friend the late Sir Watkin, on behalf of the county of Merioneth. (Applause.)

The portrait having been unveiled, and the magistrates having expressed satisfaction at the correctness of the likeness and the general execution of the work,

The LORD LIEUTENANT (Captain Pryce, Cyfrnydd), in accepting the portrait, said—Mr High Sheriff and gentlemen,—I believe I am only giving expression to the feeling of every member of this Court when I say that we have listened with much pleasure, and I may say with pride, to the eloquent tribute that has been paid by the Chairman of Quarter Sessions to the memory of the late Sir Watkin. Out of the fulness of the heart the mouth speaks. We are able to appreciate to some extent the feelings of Mr Wynne on the present occasion. We know how intimately he was associated with the late baronet in every-day life, and we know that the closest ties of friendship existed between them. I think we must come to the conclusion that nothing could be more appropriate, nothing could be more in accordance with the feeling of the nearest and dearest relatives of the late baronet, nothing could be more in accordance with the feelings of this Court, than that this pleasing duty should have been discharged in a manner worthy the occasion by the most attached and devoted friend of the late baronet. I do not remember to have ever heard a more graceful tribute paid to the memory of a departed friend. (Hear, hear.) I think I ought to make some allusion to the services rendered by Colonel Evans-Lloyd with regard to this memorial portrait. I believe that Colonel Evans-Lloyd, prompted by the good feeling which he entertained for the late baronet, took the initiative in this matter, and I believe he found most ready and willing followers in the movement he initiated. I think, also, it must be a source of much satisfaction to the gallant Colonel to find that his efforts have been crowned with success. (Hear, hear.) What has afforded gratification to himself personally I believe has afforded gratification to the whole county. (Hear, hear.) He has been the means of procuring for this county to which Sir Watkin was so devotedly attached, a memorial portrait which we shall look upon

and always regard with feelings of pleasure. (Cheers.) It will be within your recollection that when the chairmanship of this Court became vacant by reason of the death of Lord Londonderry, a general wish was expressed by the magistrates of this county that the chair should be taken by Sir Watkin. I had the honour of being deputed to convey that wish to Sir Watkin, with what result you know, that though he expressed himself deeply sensible of the compliment, failing health prevented him from accepting the post. Bearing that fact in mind, that though he was not chairman of Quarter Sessions he was offered the chairmanship, it appears to me to be an additional reason why this memorial portrait should hang on the walls of the County Hall, Bala. I therefore beg to move that in token of the great regard and esteem entertained for the memory of the late Sir Watkin his portrait be cordially accepted by the county and placed in the Shire Hall at Bala. (Cheers.)

Mr JOHN VAUGHAN, Nannau, seconded the proposition, and remarked that he was sure that there could be only a feeling of unanimity on an occasion of that sort.

The proposition having been carried unanimously, the LORD LIEUTENANT formally accepted the portrait, and directed that it should be hung in the Bala County Hall.

Sir WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN assured the assembly that it gave very great satisfaction to his wife and himself, and he felt he might add, the Dowager Lady Williams Wynn, that this kindly tribute should have been paid to the memory of his late uncle, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. He felt sure that had the late baronet been spared, nothing would have given him greater pleasure than to have seen the portrait hanging in that county hall in which he took so much interest, and respecting which, as Mr Wynne had said, he fought the battle for the holding of the Sessions alternately with Dolgelley. He (Sir Watkin) begged to thank the subscribers for their kindly gift, and for the honour they had done the Wynnstay family, and Colonel Lloyd for the trouble he had taken in connection with the memorial portrait. (Cheers.)

Colonel EVANS-LLOYD, who had acted as hon. secretary, thanked the committee for the assistance they had rendered, and acknowledged the help the present Sir Watkin and Lady Wynn had given the artist in connection with the Herkomer picture. Whatever he had done had been to him a perfect labour of love.

Mr S. POPE, Q.C., suggested that a tablet should be attached to the frame showing that the portrait was presented by gentlemen of all opinions who shared in the feeling which had been so well expressed by the High Sheriff, that nothing ever removed Sir Watkin from that genial and cordial connection with everybody in the county with whom he was associated, and that that portrait was a memorial of the affection the county of Merioneth entertained for him. (Cheers.)

The suggestion was adopted, and Colonel EVANS-LLOYD having stated that he had received letters from Mr John Corbett, M.P., Mr Oakeley, and Mr Davies, Uplands, Carmarthen, regretting inability to attend, the magistrates proceeded with the business of quarter sessions.

PRINCIPAL REICHEL ON WELSH EDUCATION.

At the meeting of the Liverpool Welsh National Society held at Liverpool on October 11, Principal Reichel delivered an address on "The Future of Education in Wales," and as it is of much interest to Welshmen we give it rather fully. He said that the subject involved, in the opinion of more competent judges than himself, the future of Welsh character, and the part that character was to play in the history of the British Empire. According to Mr Matthew Arnold, graceful fancy was the peculiar endowment of the Celtic as distinguished from the Germanic races, and it was

to the infusion of a measure of this quality by the absorption of a conquered Celtic population that he ascribed the superiority in style and delicacy of English poetry over that produced by a more unmixed Germanic stock. Literary style, in short, came more easily to a Welshman or an Irishman than to an Englishman, and more easily to an Englishman than to a German. And great as the English literature undoubtedly was, it must be admitted that there existed amongst the average English middle-class society little of that keen, almost passionate interest in literature and art for their own sake which was one of the first things that struck a stranger who went to live in Wales. England had produced, and still possessed, more and greater literary giants, but there was not now, and it was doubtful if ever there had been, such a widely spread and artistic instinct among the English masses. The oft-quoted instance of the Eisteddfod was so striking that he could not help quoting it again. It was something for any modern nation to be proud of, that the favourite institution of its middle and lower classes was the only modern parallel to the higher side of the Greek Olympic and Pythian festivals. The Greek, it was true, with that universality and completeness of view which was one of the characteristic marks of the Hellenic genius, united intellectual and physical culture in his national festivals. So far, Wales must confess inferiority, but if we were to fall short of so high an ideal there were few educated Englishmen whom candour would not oblige to confess that Wales had chosen the nobler part, and that the literary competitions of the Eisteddfod were a higher test of national tone than the racecourses of England. There could be no question then that the Cymry had nationally, and not merely individually, an especial bent which had been denied to the bulk of their more prosperous neighbours. A very competent authority, Dr. Jsambard Owen, whose striking paper on "Race and Nationality," was read before the Cymmrodorion section at the Carnarvon National Eisteddfod, did not hesitate to assert that in that instinct was to be found the "key to the history of the Welsh people." "That belief in the universality," he said, "of intelligent enjoyment, that spontaneous creed of the democracy of culture, was the idea which had inspired the Welsh nationality, was the social gospel which Wales had to offer to the world." "It was singular," he proceeded further on, "that the part of our common kingdom in which the love of intelligent pursuits was most widely diffused, and in which intellectual culture was of the essence of the national idea, should be of all the part worst supplied with the means of systematic mental training." If there was any truth in the foregoing remarks it was impossible not to feel the extreme gravity of the subject he had chosen, and to acknowledge that, to parody Dr. Owen's own words, "The Welshman of to-day deprived of education was an organism incomplete lacking its perfect development." England was the great home of political institutions—her people possessed the evenness of temper, the phlegmatic disposition, the rough common-sense, the dislike of change for the mere sake of change, which were to be found where political liberty was an old and sturdy forest tree. There was not a free constitution existing at the present day the origin of which could not be traced back to the direct Anglo-Saxon handiwork or to conscious imitation of it. Of England, the mother of free institutions, they in Wales could not hope to become the political teacher. But no one who had lived but a short time in the Principality could doubt that Wales had a lesson to teach which England would be the better for learning. But how could that lesson be taught while education was deficient? How singular it was that

while the average of literary taste was higher in Wales than in England the average of education should be lower. He doubted if Welshmen realised how utterly their ideas and social life were outside the ken of the Englishman. Wales was far less known outside its own boundaries than Scotland or Ireland. How was it that while the Scotch and Irish national airs were even better known in England than the old English melodies themselves, it was rare even for people to have so much as heard of the Welsh melodies? Any capable musician would say at once that it was not from their inferiority. What was the cause of that isolation? Not that the Welsh remained in their own country and refused to emigrate. There were more Welsh inhabitants in Liverpool than in any town in North Wales; but Welshmen who had left their own country did not mix much with the populations amongst whom they were thrown; they transplanted their own social and religious organisation bodily, and tended to live in a quarter of their own, and to confine their intercourse with the rest of the population to business relations. (Applause.) So marked was this tendency that at the University of Oxford Welshmen kept to themselves, and were a puzzle to the rest of the university. Jones of Jesus was an enigma to the ordinary English or Scotch undergraduate, as many quaint and some uncomplimentary bon mots attested. Scotchmen wherever they went freely mixed with Englishmen, and their influence was correspondingly powerful. They stood by each other, but they had sufficient confidence not to feel it necessary that they should live by each other. It would be admitted, he thought, that the immediate cause of the difference had not been named. The Scotchman possessed self-confidence; the Welshman did not. The former therefore launched out boldly into English life, confident in his own strength; the latter could never quite summon up courage for the fatal plunge. How was this confidence and diffidence to be accounted for? Would he be exceeding the modesty of truth if he ascribed it in very large measure to the difference in education? The Scotchman felt himself armed at all points. He had no fear for the future. If anything he felt he had a better chance in England than in his own country, the average of education being lower in the former, and his own relative position proportionately higher. The Welshman felt all the corresponding disadvantages. He knew English, but did not think in English. His education had been narrower, his experience of men and manners more confined. What more natural than that he should shrink back into himself, misunderstanding and misunderstood? As long as education remained in its present backward state in Wales, as long as English was a foreign language to the average Welshman, which he could indeed understand, but in which he was not at home, so long it was inevitable that Welsh life and thought would be, he would not say without influence upon, but actually unknown to the English mind. Wales could never influence England as Scotland, or even backward Ireland, had done, till her sons ceased to be the foreigners which, to all intents and purposes, the mass of them continued to be at the present day. Every Welshman, then, who desired that his race should play their due part in the history of the British Empire, and through it of the world, would best contribute to this end—First, by learning to think in English; secondly, by widening his knowledge and cultivating his intellectual powers. Of these, the first was almost the necessary preliminary of the second, and the wholly essential condition on which alone the second might be brought to bear upon English life and thought. He must not be understood to advocate the disuse of Welsh. He was only pleading for the thorough

use of English. History showed that bi-lingual races had existed, and while there was an undoubted disadvantage in the loss of time entailed in the acquisition of a second instrument of thought, it might be questioned whether the freedom from that subjection of thought to language, which was the besetting sin of races who spoke none but their own, was not a fully compensating one. The basis, then, of any effectual system of Welsh education must be the complete acquisition of English. So far he had been dealing only with the importance of the subject. They had seen how vital it was, that upon the solution of the problem depended the answer to the question whether Wales would continue what she had been in the past two centuries—an interesting but little-known and obscure province, or the rival in the history of the world of the Scotch or Anglo-Irish race. Let them hope that the time was not far distant when a Welshman would find the same advantage from his nationality as the Scotchman had long enjoyed, because no Englishman would think the worse of him, and every Welshman would think the better. (Applause.) In Wales, as in other countries, teaching institutions divided naturally into three classes—first, lower or elementary schools; second, middle or intermediate schools; and, third, higher schools or universities. By common consent the elementary schools were regarded as the most perfectly organised part of the Welsh educational system, and had been remarkably successful. But the system as at present worked was vitiated by at least one serious defect, and that was payment by results. (Applause.) He believed that anything to solve the difficulty must proceed upon the principle of allowing more latitude to the individual masters in the choice both of subject and method, and recognising that examination by marks alone was often most misleading. Technical education in elementary schools seemed to him to contain the elements of a solution of some of the difficulties which beset primary education on the one hand, and manufacturing prosperity on the other, as it would raise the standard of elementary education in the present acceptance of the phrase, and of manufacturing efficiency (Hear, hear.) The intermediate schools were admittedly the weakest link in the chain of Welsh education. In these he advocated a modern side and a classic side. Till they recognized that successful commercial careers would be in future more and more restricted to men who were familiar with French and German, and perhaps Italian—whose familiarity was not confined to the domain of reading, but who were able to converse fluently and write idiomatically in each, the best places in houses would be continued to be monopolised by foreigners. That was the real defect of the Welsh intermediate schools as they at present existed. They must also take care that the management of Welsh schools and colleges did not fall into the hands of London officials and be forced into a particular groove, devised for a population differing in quality of intelligence and social organization. They should insist that the Welsh schools should be administered in Wales and not in London, if the national character of the Welsh mind were to leaven the general mind with new ideas and new perceptions, and not be obliterated as superfluous. (Applause.) Speaking of the need of a Welsh University, embracing the existing colleges of Bangor, Aberystwyth, and Cardiff, Principal Reichel urged all who considered the future of Wales was interwoven with the future of Welsh education to make a University of Wales a plank in their political platform. (Loud applause.) He also threw out several suggestions for such a university, one being that it must be a teaching and not a mere examining body, such as London University; and another, that no subject should be excluded from the list of

possible faculties. He imagined that the relation of the Welsh University to Oxford and Cambridge would be the same as that which at present subsisted between them and the Scottish National Universities. The choicer spirits, after taking their Welsh degree, would proceed to Oxford or Cambridge, and there, no longer keeping timidly apart in conscious inferiority, would throw themselves with confidence into the most intelligent society, and thus impress Welsh influence on English thought at its source, as at the present day Scotch influence was being impressed by the able Scotch graduates who won such a large proportion of the Oxford scholarships annually, and a still larger proportion of fellowships. When this day arrived for the Welsh student it would be the promise of a new intelligent and social life for Wales; and instead of sitting apart in half-jealous, half-timid isolation, uninfluencing and uninfluenced, she would throw herself fearlessly into the general life of Great Britain, knowing that she would thus be at once raising others and herself. (Loud applause.)

NOVEMBER 3, 1886.

NOTES.

"OLD BRECKNOCK CHIPS."—This is the title of an antiquarian column now running in the *Brecon County Times*, compiled and edited by Mr Edwin Poole, an old Oswestrian.

NOTES ON PLATE IN POSSESSION OF THE CORPORATION OF OSWESTRY.

Maces.—Pair of, inscribed "Oswestry 1723." No marks, but the cup-shaped bowls are of the fashion of 1677, when it is recorded that new maces were made.

Cup.—Gift of Hugh Middleton in 1616. Made in London same year. The maker's mark, which is S F in linked letters, is found on a cup of the Cutlers' Company in London, date 1607, and on a communion cup very like this Oswestry cup in shape, of the year 1617 at Chignal in Essex.

Jugs.—Pair of, given 1739. These were made in London in the year 1738-9 by David Willaums of London. David Willaume lived in St. James's Street, Westminster; he entered his mark at Goldsmiths' Hall in 1728, and was one of the most fashionable makers for some years afterwards.

Punch ladle.—Gift of Sir W. Williams Wynn in 1740. This was made the same year by a maker living in London, with whose name I am unacquainted. His initials were D.H.

Race cup.—Gift of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., Oswestry Races 1777. The gift of Noel Hill, Esq., to the Corporation of Oswestry, won by his horse Young Malton. This cup was made the same year by a very large manufacturer of plate named John Carter, who lived in Bartholomew Close. It is very characteristic of the style of the period.

Cups.—Four small cups dated 1791. These were made by Peter Bateman of London in the year 1790-1.

Candlesticks.—Two pair of candlesticks given 1795, and made at Sheffield in the year 1794-5. Makers, I. G. & Co. I have no lists of Sheffield makers, their names not being of general interest.

SEP 1886.

WILFRID CRIPPS.

NOTES ON PARISH CHURCH PLATE—OSWESTRY.

1.—Elizabethan cup and cover gilt with inscription in three bands in lettering of the period telling that the cup was made in 1575.

This was made in London in the year 1575 by a maker whose mark  is found on much Church plate.

He made plate in 1570 for Stow Longa co. Cambs and Ellerker co. Yorks; and in 1571 for Corney, Cumb; as well as spoons of the same period for the Armourers' Company of London.

2.—Tall gilt cup with open work spire or pyramid on cover; given 1639.

This was made in London in 1619-20 by a maker whose

mark was **F** (T. F.) in linked letters. He made very

much notable plate for the City Companies, and also the plate at the Temple Church, the last in 1609-10. His mark is found from 1609 till 1639. Cups of this fashion are used as chalices at Bodmin in Cornwall; at Odcombe in Somersetshire, at Appleby and at Holme Cultram in the Diocese of Carlisle, and at Linton in Kent.

The Bodmin Cup is of 1617-18, Odcombe 1613-14, Appleby 1612-3, Holme Cultram 1613-4, and Linton 1619-20.

3.—Cup with cover given 1635. This is of a pattern of which several examples are known, all of the year 1635 or within a year of that date; made in London the same year

by a maker whose mark  is well known. He made

plate in 1632 for Trinity Coll. Church, Edinburgh, and in 1634 for Lythe in Yorkshire, etc. Also in 1635 an Alms dish for Christ's Coll., Cambridge.

4.—Plain tall flagon given in 1707.

Made in London in 1707-8 by one John Jackson. He does not seem to have made any great deal of plate.

5.—Plain alms-plate, gift of Eliz. Roderick. Made in London 1717-8 by Humphry Payne of Gutter Lane, a maker of very much plate from 1701 onwards.

6.—Another plain alms-plate on a foot given by the same donor. This is of 1711-12, and by the same maker as the last Humphrey Payne.

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7.—Chalice, silver gilt, and jewelled, designed by Mr G. E. Street, and given by the Honble. Mrs Kenyon in 1874, on the occasion of the re-opening of the Church after its restoration.

8.—A Paten, silver gilt, with the above, engraved with monogram.

9.—A Flagon, Glass and silver gilt, the gift of Sarah Lady Harlech.

W.H.E.

NOTES ON THE COMMUNION PLATE OF THE INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, OSWESTRY (NOW CHRIST CHURCH.)

Flagon.—Flat-lidded tankard flagon, with usual purchase and bold handle. This was made at Chester in the year 1690-1. Maker R.W. Name unknown.

Silver.—or large Paten on foot, edge of plate and foot gadrooned. Made in London in the year 1702-3 by one John East, who entered his mark at Goldsmiths' Hall in 1697, and was a maker of repute. He made some of the church plate sent by Queen Anne as presents to Churches in H.M. plantations in America in 1705 and other years.

Cup.—Porringer with two handles and the usual diagonal fluted ornamentation of the period. Made by Nathl. Lock of London in 1709-10.

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The above-named plate was bequeathed by Mrs Sarah Lloyd of Oswestry together with £200 in 1727,

"for the use of the said Protestant Dissenting congregation, to be used at the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper thereof," and is thus described in her will, "My largest silver candle cup and my largest silver tankard and my largest silver salver." The coat of arms on the Tankard is the one borne by the Lloyds of Montgomeryshire, namely,

1.—Sa. three nags' heads erased two and one, ar. (Brochweil Ysgythrog Prince of Powys.)

2.—Sa. a chevron between three owls ar. (Broughton.)

There are also two silver-gilt Cups and a Pewter salver, but there is nothing on either intimating whether they were given or purchased.

The two silver cups bear the Hall-mark of George III., and probably were acquired during the pastorate of Dr. Edward Williams between 1784 and 1792.

The modern communion plate, consisting of Flagon and four cups, was presented by the Rev T. Gasquoine in 1871

Extract from Mr Wilfrid Cripps's letter to Mr Stanley Leighton :—

8 Sept., 1886.

The plate of the Independent Chapel interest me very much. . . . The interest of the Chapel Tankard is that it gives an old Chester mark. They are very seldom found and very useful to me. Though a good deal of old silver was made in Chester, the Chester Corporation and Cathedral plate is very little of it home made, and my knowledge of old Chester marks has had to be built upon stray pieces in country Churches, etc., like this tankard. Its marks happen to be particularly good and clear, giving the city crest of a sword erect on one mark, and a coat (a sword erect between 3 garbs) on another, besides a

date-letter **B** which is 1690-1.

OSWESTRY PARISH CHURCH PLATE.

The following are extracts from Terriers giving account of this plate :—

From Terrier of Church property, 21st February 1685. "Three Silver Bowls, one Silver Plate, Two Great Pewter Flaggons."

From Terrier dated 8th July 1791. "Plate with the following inscriptions : One large chalice 'Given for the use of the Holy Communion in the Parish Church of Oswestry 1707' 67 oz. 10 dwts. Two waiters for the use of Oswestry Church given by Elizabeth Roderick 'ex dono Mrs Elizabeth Roderick to the Parish Church of Oswestry in Salop' 23 oz 10 dwts. A tall cup and cover 'The gift of Richard Mason of the Hayes Esq unto the Church of Oswestree in the countie of Salop' 30 oz 5 dwts. A tall cup and cover 'Richard Stanni the elder Mercer was the under of this cup given by him to the Perrysse Church of Oswester, made Anno Do 1575' 21 oz 10 dwts. A tall cup and cover 'ex dono David Edwards 1635' 21 oz 15 dwts. A small cup and plate 'Edward Edwards, tanner, dedicateth this plate to the service of God in the Church of Oswestrie the charge beinge his friends' love at the Baptisme of Francis and Catherine his childrine now both with God. 1631' 13 oz 15 dwts. Total 178 oz 5 dwts." Os.

QUERIES.

OSWESTRY GUILDS (Oct. 27, 1886).—In the account of the celebration of the Coronation of George IV., there appears mention of the "Oswestry Incorporated Companies of Cordwainers, Tailors, Weavers, and Breeches-Makers." This is the first time I have heard of these "Incorporated Companies." Can any of your readers

give any information as to what these Companies or Guilds really were, what has become of them, and whether there are any records in existence referring to them? X.Y.

REPLIES.

TWR TEWDWS (Oct. 6, 1886).—E. OWEN asks what cluster of stars is known by this name; in reply I beg to inform him that the *Pleiades* is the cluster referred to, *Twr Tewdws* being the name generally given to it in North Wales. The same cluster is called *Twr Sér* or *Twp Ser* in South Wales. I have never heard *twr tatws*, which I can only attribute to ignorance or a joke; but I have heard in Merionethshire *Twr Tedws*, or *Teidws*, I am not positive which, applied to the *Pleiades*. Have any of your correspondents heard the Bear (Ursa Major) called in Wales "Y Saith Seren Siriol?" W.D.W.

Blaenporth.

MACHYNLLETH CHARTERS (Oct. 20, 1886).

—There is very little doubt that Machynlleth had a Charter or Charters like the other places mentioned in the query of your correspondent "OWAIN," for Richard Pugh, Junior, Esq. (probably Richard Pugh of Mathafarn) is styled in 21 Elizabeth (1579) *Mayor* of Machynlleth.

After the death of Llewelyn, theoretically Wales became an integral portion of the dominion of England, but it was not until the passing of the statute 27, Hen. VIII., chap. 26 (1535), that the King's writ ran over the whole country.

The district which was described in the Act as the County of Montgomery anterior to that date, was divided into eleven Lordships, of which Arwystli and Cyfeiliog were two. Over these several Lordships down to 1540-2 (which seems to be about the time the Act became operative) the Lords, as they were described, exercised almost as much power as the Kings of England over the English Counties, though they held their rights nominally from and under the Crown.

Charters originally may be described as Letters Patent obtained by the Lords from the Crown, so as to give them the right of establishing fairs and markets at the towns within their Lordships, and also the right of taxing all persons who bought and sold articles at these fairs and markets. The Lords also had other privileges, such as heriots, chief rents, and several other modes of taxing the people.

I think all the earliest Charters to towns in Montgomeryshire would, if examined into, be found to be Charters granted to individuals (the Lords) and not to municipalities, and the Lords for considerations subsequently granted their Charters to the townspeople, the latter paying certain sums of money for such of the privileges as they desired the Lords to concede. I know this was the case as regards Kerry and Newtown.

Your correspondent would therefore expect to find the early Charters relating to Machynlleth as emanating from the Lords of Arwystli and Cyfeiliog, and at a later date perhaps these Charters he would find confirmed by the King or Kings of England. Apparently Machynlleth, in regard to some things, was put upon an equality with Montgomery at the passing of the Act above.

Montgomery was named to be the head and shire town, and the County or Shire Court was to be held for the first time at Montgomery, and the *next* time at the town of *Maghenlleth*, and so on alternately *for ever*, and in none other place. The declaration of the return of a Knight for the Shire is now made sometimes at Montgomery and sometimes at *Machynlleth*. I think this is governed by the time of year the election takes place.

The people of Montgomeryshire did not in those days take so lively an interest in public matters as they now do, for for a long period the Borough Member was returned by the "Freemen" of Montgomery town, the other contributory towns losing their right (it is stated) because they declined to contribute some trifling sum towards the expense of returning the member.

In the reign of Elizabeth one Parliament was elected in 1572, and did not dissolve till 1580-1. The then member was Rowland Pugh of Mathafarn. He took so little interest in his duties that he was thought to be dead, and Richard Herbert, Esq., was returned in his stead. It was then discovered Mr Pugh, who was supposed to be *dead, was only sick*, and it was ordered "that Richard Herbert, Esq., shall be forthwith removed from his place, and the said Rowland Pugh stand and continue for the same place."

Newtown, doubtless, had privileges of a Municipal character like Llanfyllin and Montgomery—but they were neglected—why or how has not been as yet ascertained. A few years ago a few persons there met and formed themselves into a committee to promote a movement to endeavour to revive the Ancient *Régime*, and the first meeting ended in an enthusiastic desire to carry it through. At a subsequent meeting held shortly after—it was stated the expense would be heavy and the matter was dropped.

I have always had an idea that another very excellent reason might have been given.

As there seems to be a growing desire for local self-government—the day may come when the subject will have been discussed. I feel assured if the people of Newtown had not forfeited their privileges some 250 years ago they would not have had to pay £1,000—to get rid of the Tolls—nor would they have allowed the Ancient *Green* to have been cut up and divided among a few of the Freeholders of the Town, in 1796. PEARMAIN.

CWRW (Jan. 20, 1886).—A correspondent asked at what period this popular beverage is first recorded as having been known to the Welsh people. As it does not appear to have been answered, I venture to send the following extract from Professor Rhys's little book on Celtic Britain:—"No such islands as Britain and Ireland were known to Herodotus in the fifth century before the Christian era; but some time afterwards one of the Scipios of Rome visited Marseilles (1) and Narbonne to find out whether trade could not be established with the region beyond Southern Gaul, so as to injure the Carthaginians, whose sailors used to bring tin, not only from Spain and the Cassiterides, or the tin islands on the north-west of that peninsula, but also from Gaul. The Roman could not, however, get any information about the north, but the idea of a voyage of discovery

took form among the merchants of Marseilles, and the result was that they fitted out an expedition, accompanied by an eminent mathematician of that city, with whose name the reader should be familiar as that of one of the most intrepid explorers the world has seen. This was Pytheas (2) who lived in the time of Alexander the Great and Aristotle, the latter of whom died in the year 322 B.C., while the year 330 is guessed as the date of the floruit of Pytheas. The publication of the history of his travels is supposed to have taken place soon after the death of Aristotle; and fragments of the diary of his voyage have been preserved to us in the works of various ancient authors. He sailed round Spain to Brittany, and thence to Kent and other parts of Britain; next he set out from the Thames to the mouth of the Rhine, and thence he rounded Jutland, proceeding east so far as the mouth of the Vistula: he turned back from there and coasted Norway until he reached the Arctic circle, whence he made for the Shetlands and the North of Scotland. Then he returned to Brittany, whence he reached the mouth of the Garonne, where he found an overland route home to Marseilles. Thus Pytheas was in Britain twice, and paid more attention to it than any of the other countries he visited, but he does not seem to have been so far as the tin districts in the west, and it is remarkable that he gives no hint which would lead one to suppose that there was any communication between them and the Continent. That intercourse it would seem was confined to the south-east of the Island, where the Channel was narrowest. Pytheas took a great many observations in Britain; but owing to the nature of the instruments which were then in use they are of no value.

It is quite otherwise with regard to what he says of the inhabitants; he saw plenty of corn in the fields in the south-east, and he noticed that the farmers gathered the sheaves into large barns, in which the threshing was done.

They had so little sun that the open threshing-floors of the sunnier south would not have done in a land of clouds and rain like Britain. He likewise found they made a drink (3) by mixing wheat with honey, which is the mead, still known in certain parts of Wales; and he is supposed to have been the authority for their use of another drink, which Greek writers (4) speak of as made of barley, and drunk instead of wine. The name by which it was known to them is still the Celtic word for beer; it was formerly *curmi*, and it now makes *cuirno* in Irish, and *cwrw* in Welsh." This indicates that *cwrw* was known to the Celtic people in this country 2220 years ago! PEARMAIN.

CURRENT NOTES.

At Cardiff on Thursday, Mr Alfred Thomas, M.P., performed the ceremony of opening the Llanishen Waterworks, which have a capacity of 317,000,000 gallons, for the use of the town.

(2) For a fuller account of Pytheas see Elton's "Origins of Eng. Hist.;" (London, 1882), pp. 13, &c., and the extracts at the end of that volume.

(3) Strabo Δ 5. c. 201.

(4) Among others, Athenæus & Dioscorides; see Diefenbach's *Origines Europææ*, s.v. *ceruisia*.

(1) Strabo Δ 2. 1. (c 190).

Owing to illhealth, Archdeacon Wynne Jones, who has held the archdeaconry of Bangor since 1863, has placed his resignation in the hands of the bishop. The venerable gentleman, who holds the rectory of Bodedern, Anglesey, which is in his own gift, is in his 81st year. The archdeaconry, together with the vacant canon-residentiary of the Cathedral, is in the gift of the Bishop, and is worth £350 a year.

The Bishop of Chester, one of the most eminent historical authorities of the present day, in his recent address before the Chester Archaeological and Historical Society, said that he had read Mr Henry Taylor's book upon "Flint," with the very greatest pleasure. It was a book which seemed to be quite a model of what local history should be, full of old information and new information, and all arranged in that intelligent way and with that full perception of the bearing of local history upon general history which was immensely to be desired in archaeological histories.

In the parish of Llandrillo, near Colwyn Bay, there is a well-known fish weir formed by stakes, enclosing a portion of the sea at high tide. When the tide recedes the fish are left in the weir. The Rector of Llandrillo has a right to a tithe of all fish caught therein. The mode of levying the tax is not by average or commutation, but the rector every tenth day sends his man to gather in all the fish which have been left by the two tides. A recent Sunday was what is called "the parson's tide," and the reverend gentleman sent his man as usual to take what the sea had cast up for his tithe.

The death is announced, at Abbey Cwmhir, Penybont, Radnorshire, in the 56th year of his age, of Mr George Henry Phillips. Mr Phillips was the younger son of the late Mr Francis Aspinall Phillips, of Bank Hall, Heaton Norris, grandson of Francis Phillips, a well-known merchant of Manchester; and a descendant of Nathaniel and John Phillips, who, in the middle of the last century began the business of smallware manufacturers in Manchester, a business in which their family has since become so well known. Since he left Oxford Mr Phillips mostly devoted himself to the public duties of his native county, Radnor, of which he was a magistrate and deputy lieutenant, and high sheriff in 1860. In politics he was a Conservative.

Between nine and ten on Friday night an extraordinary subsidence of land occurred near Chester Cathedral, but happily was not attended with loss of life. A little to the left of Kaleyards-gate, leading to the city walls, a hole about two feet broad, and apparently of considerable depth, was found. The passage was quite dark at the time, and it is said that Mr Wait, undertaker, who was proceeding to the Post Office by this route, walked into the hole, but was able to get out. Several persons more or less acquainted with the history of the city walls and surroundings have visited the spot of the subsidence, and state that at that particular point a subterranean passage ran from the Cathedral. Whether the slip of land is in consequence of this passage or other influences at present remains a question. The Corporation have blocked the thoroughfare to prevent accidents.

The current number of "Archæologia Cambrensis" contains an important article by Mr Alfred N. Palmer of Wrexham, entitled "The Portiary Churches of Mediæval North Wales, their Tribal relations, and the Sinecurism connected therewith." Perhaps the most curious point in the article is the proof that many of the ancient churches of North Wales were served by groups of tribal priests. Some interesting examples of the appropriation of tithes are also given. The article will be reprinted in Mr Palmer's forthcoming "History of the

Parish Church of Wrexham," which will shortly be published by Messrs Woodall, Minshall, and Co., of Oswestry and Wrexham.

The Cambro-Britons held their third anniversary dinner on Monday evening, under the presidency of Mr David Owen, M.A. Amongst the guests were Mr Bowen Rowlands, M.P., and Professor Rhys of Oxford. Mr Bowen Rowlands responded to the toast of "Cymru Fydd" (the motto, by the way, of the more advanced section of the Welsh Liberal party) and in eloquent terms asserted the national claims of Wales. Professor Rhys had to respond to a toast on the well-worn theme of "Education in Wales," and found it more convenient, and perhaps more interesting, to dwell on the merits of ancient Welsh literature. Lovers of such will be delighted to know that Professor Rhys, and his co-adjutor, Mr J. Gwenogfryn Evans, have so far progressed with the publication of the "Llyfr Coch o Hergest," that the first instalment thereof is expected to be ready for issue in the course of about five or six weeks. Mr W. E. Davies responded to the toast of the Eisteddfod in a clever Welsh speech.

SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

On Monday, Oct. 25, the annual meeting of the members of this Society was held at the Shirehall, Shrewsbury. The chair was taken by Mr Stanley Leighton, M.P., who read a paper on "The Preservation of Ancient Monuments." There were also present—The Revs. Canon Allen, C. H. Drinkwater, W. H. Egerton, F. W. Kittermaster, and T. Auden, Mr G. Griffiths, Mr W. Beacall, Mr Sandford Corser, Dr Cranage, Mr Oldroyd, Mr Dovaston, Mr Clement Southam, Mr W. Phillips, and Mr Goynne, secretary.

The SECRETARY read the following report:—

The Council of the Shropshire Archaeological Society herewith present their statement of accounts. It will be seen that the balance due to the Treasurer has been reduced from £32 14s 5d to £1 3s 11d. In addition to this the Society's debts have been paid, with the exception of £100 due to the printers of the Transactions. This account the Council trust will be reduced, if not absolutely cleared off, by the end of the present year, inasmuch as arrears of members' subscriptions amounting to £48 are due. The Council trust that the members whose subscriptions are outstanding will kindly pay the same as early as possible. The Council regret that the Rev. W. A. Leighton has resigned his post as editor of the Transactions, and they herewith accord him their most sincere and hearty thanks for the labour undertaken by him and so admirably carried out. The Editorial Committee has been appointed, to which Mr Leighton has promised occasional assistance. The Council desire to call the attention of the members to the fact that they have only about thirty complete sets of the Transactions left. It will be necessary, therefore, that gentlemen requiring complete sets should make early applications.

The report was adopted.

THE PRESERVATION OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS.

The CHAIRMAN then read the following paper:—

The Council of the Shropshire Antiquarian Society have done me the honour of asking me not only to preside at their annual meeting, but also to read a paper on "The Preservation of Ancient Monuments." It was with great pleasure that I accepted both invitations, for it seems to me that there is important work before this Society, and an undeveloped field, but little explored, which deserves our attention. In matters archaeological we must always remember that if we do not preserve things worthy of preservation when we can, we may find ourselves in the position of regretting, when too late, their total and ir retrievable loss.

"If you will not when you may,
Then you shall not when you will."

Every generation, nay, almost every family, feels some regrets for the neglects of their immediate predecessors. Now, as these losses have fallen upon generation after generation, upon family after family, I suppose we must accept the fact that until the nature of our humanity is somewhat changed the fondness for destruction will remain one of the qualities of our race. We may perhaps modify the tendency, but we shall not probably efface it altogether. Two methods of modifying the effects of the inherent destructiveness of man's nature occur to us. First of all, let us try to make an acquaintance with history and with the examples and evidences of the work of our ancestors popular; and secondly, let us by printing manuscripts and multiplying pictures of old places and things, keep at all events a memorial of them, for those who come after us. Sometimes people laugh at antiquaries and archaeologists, and I admit that the names which we give ourselves are unattractive, but those who laugh most are generally those whose ignorance of the history of their own country leads them into the most ludicrous mistakes. It is amusing to notice persons who despise antiquarian exactness claiming pedigrees up to Norman, or Saxon, or Danish, or British, or even Biblical progenitors. It is ludicrous to hear people speak of institutions of the 17th or even the 18th century as "Feudal." It is the commonest thing in the world for people to talk of Haddon Hall as if it were an example of the residence of a mediæval baron, or to gaze upon the ruins of an Elizabethan or Jacobean building and associate it in their confused and ill-informed minds with feudal history. The same sort of inaccuracy crops up in reference to everything which is called "old." In these days of unlimited educational progress there are very few people even amongst those eligible young men who profess to be desirous of turning their brains to anything who can read a manuscript two hundred years old. There are still fewer who are acquainted with the different handwritings of the earlier periods. I have often thought that we ought to have attached to this society a reader of ancient manuscripts, whom we could recommend to any person desirous of having the manuscripts in his possession calendared. I fear there is not in this county of Salop any such professional person. The ignorance of people as to their own books, pictures, manuscripts, and hereditary objects of interest is extraordinary and would not be believed if it were not for authenticated instances which are always cropping up. Let me give, as an instance, this one fact, that of all the country houses which I have visited, I don't know one in which the names of all the portraits are known. I have seen people point to an Italian 17th century Doge of Venice as a 15th century ancestor of their own. The name of the most distinguished member of the family is over and over again given to the best painted picture, quite regardless of date, and I know one case in which a person told me a portrait was, he felt sure, that of his own grandmother, only he had forgotten her name! I knew a house which was let, and in the catalogue of books in the library a large number were catalogued together simply as school books, among which was afterwards found a book printed in the 15th century, known to antiquaries as the famous Book of St. Albans, and worth in money value £500. A knowledge of those things which antiquaries cultivate may really be of value even in the mercantile world. Fashion will often induce people to do very foolish things, from which a little of the knowledge which we, as a society of antiquaries, desire to promote would save them. I knew a gentleman who wished to be in the very forefront of the fashionable ideas of the day, and having inherited an extremely substantial and characteristic porticoed house of the later Georgian period, pulled it completely down in order to erect on its foundations a Queen Anne house, just because at that particular period—about fifteen years ago—there was a rage for the Queen Anne style. Now, what we maintain is this, that every century and every generation of men have their own peculiar idiosyncracies, which are marked in the character by their buildings, their writings, their pictures, their furniture, and everything which they do or make; and we believe that no generation should be blotted out of historical recollection. Fancy the absurdity, in the Victorian era, of pulling down a Georgian house in order to try to reproduce a Queen Anne elevation. Many of the most polished and in some respects educated men are surprisingly confused in their ideas of antiquity. I was walking through Westminster Hall with one of the most distinguished leaders of the Liberal party the other day, and he looked up to the great roof and remarked, "This is the work of William Rufus." He was quite unaware that Richard II. entirely rebuilt the hall. He was just three centuries wrong, and was not ashamed of his ignorance. There is nothing like a little acquaintance with local history to make people

understand how rapidly change goes on. The other day I had occasion to go through the list of the subscribers to the Oswestry Charter, which was granted in 1673 by Charles II. The names of all the principal families within the hundred of Oswestry were in the list, but not a single name is represented now in the hundred of Oswestry in the male line. The duty of a society like ours is to keep up the interest in the history of the neighbourhood in which our work is cast. How little that ground has been covered will be patent to any one who observes that there has not yet been written a complete history of Shropshire. There are many manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, in the British Museum, and some in the Shrewsbury School Library, which have not yet been printed or even catalogued. In the county houses of Shropshire there must be an immense amount of unedited matter. In the municipal records of some of our Shropshire towns, again, there is a quantity of unsorted material. Here I would venture to address a word of exhortation to Town Councils. I would ask them not only to have their records calendared, but also to go to the small expense of buying a suitable fire-proof chest for keeping the most valuable of their charters and manuscripts. This, I believe, has been done by the Corporation of the county town. It is a common thing all over England to hand over the custody of the records to the Town Clerk, and over and over again all the records have been deposited at his own private residence. At the death of the custodian they often get into wrong hands, simply through inadvertence. Again, we have an archaeological mine well worth working in the registers of our parish churches. It may not be possible for a private society to undertake the task of printing all the registers within its area, and indexing them, but we may at least get the most important of them printed in our volumes, and together with them many of those churchwardens' accounts and notes which throw light upon parochial history. Before I leave the records of the churches, I would remind my hearers that in many dioceses—in Carlisle, for instance, and in Canterbury—the Church plate has all been catalogued and illustrated, and a most useful volume, with a market value, has been produced. In Lichfield lately three great volumes have been compiled of Church stuff or Church goods. I think it would be well if we were to enter into communication with the Bishop of Lichfield, with a view to printing in our Transactions these lists, which I believe are now only in manuscript. I will make a suggestion as to the best means of getting illustrations to scale of Church plate. I would suggest that, if anyone would undertake the business, the clergy might, through their archdeacons and rural deans, be induced to bring in their Church plate to be photographed in the nearest town where there is a good photographer, who should photograph all the plate on the same scale and in the same position. The hall-marks are easily taken in sealing wax, and when the set for a rural deanery was complete it might be copied to scale in some of our schools of art, and then reproduced with notes in our "Transactions." I must add another word with regard to the monuments in our churches and churchyards. They ought to be better preserved. It is almost a scandal that a society should have been founded in London called a Society for Preserving the Monuments of the Dead, and that it has had so much work to do in restoring historic monuments and calling people's attention to their neglect and decay, that I believe it is almost bankrupt at the present moment. There are two dangers which threaten historical monuments—neglect and over-restoration. There is also the habit of robbing an old house of its old oak or its staircase or its furniture in order to place it in a brand new house, so that the new place may look like an old one. These counterfeits deceive no one. There is a peculiar interest in anything which is as we call it in situ, which has been put new into a place and remained there until it is old. Take away that association and the interest of the thing is gone. It is an ignorant notion that carpenters and upholsterers in our day cannot make better furniture than their predecessors 200 or 300 years ago. The carpenters and upholsterers, as we know, provide for the fashionable tastes of the day by making new furniture look as if it were old, and so secure their price. I will conclude my somewhat discursive remarks by urging this Society, and all those who are interested in the history of the past, to use as much as possible the pencil and the photograph. Illustrations are better than pages of letterpress. I wish we could get a book in the library of all the noticeable buildings in Shropshire as they are in this Victorian age. I don't think the cost would be very great, most photographers would be willing to give their photographs for the sake of the advertisement, and we might have on our shelves and

tables a dozen large volumes of Shropshire architecture catalogued, classified, and indexed. My last suggestion is that we should, from time to time, have an exhibition of the portraits of Shropshire celebrities in this place, just on the same plan as the historical portrait exhibition in London was arranged some years ago, under the auspices of the late Earl of Derby, and that we should have a sketch catalogue, or illustrated catalogue, made of each exhibition by a competent artist, together with a short account of the persons represented. Believe me, we shall hardly fulfil the duties which, as a Shropshire Society of Antiquaries, we have taken upon ourselves, if we do not endeavour in every way to develop the means of popularising the subject which we have taken under our special charge, of finding out for ourselves new ways of enlarging the scope of our operations, and of making our Society worthy of the new home in the old School which the town of Shrewsbury has so liberally placed at our disposal.

Mr PHILLIPS said a communication had been received from the Society of Antiquaries asking that society to furnish them with a list of the objects of interest in Shropshire. A committee was appointed to consider the matter, but they scarcely knew whether they ought to include such sights as Haughmond Abbey and Wenlock Abbey, or only those buildings which no one apparently looked after, and which were liable to be destroyed.

Mr BEACALL remarked that one of the difficulties felt by the committee was that if a gentleman had a monument and took great care of it, they could not undertake to look after it, or even interfere, because the monument was private property.

The CHAIRMAN thought a committee should be appointed, and they could send in a report at the general meeting. They might, however, preserve some monuments of much later times than those that came under the Act of Parliament. He thought that would be a useful thing for that society to look after.

The Rev. C. H. DRINKWATER said there was a fine old Roman bridge at Laugley, and some years ago some one got up a scheme for taking up the pavement which had stood over 1600 years, but they found the expense too great for them, and, fortunately, the idea was not carried out.

The Rev. T. AUDEN said the present owners of monuments might take care of them, but in some cases the property changed hands and then they did not know what might take place; so he thought they might schedule any that were at present being taken care of.

The Rev. C. H. DRINKWATER said they might schedule them under the periods to which they belonged, and give notice to the owners that such monuments had been scheduled. A few years ago a very interesting old stone near Nescliff was destroyed, simply to pave the road.

A committee was then appointed, which included the Rev. F. W. Kittermaster, Rev. A. T. Pelham, Mr Griffiths, Mr Oldroyd, Mr Dovaston, and Dr. Cranage, in addition to the Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, Mr Phillips, and Mr Beacall, who were members of the previous committee, to prepare a schedule of the different monuments in all parts of the county, and report to the general meeting of the Society.

Mr Stanley Leighton left at this point, and a hearty vote of thanks was given to him for his interesting paper, and the Rev. W. H. Egerton subsequently filled the chair.

Major SOUTHAM proposed that the Council be re-appointed.

Mr DOVASTON seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr GRIFFITHS proposed, Mr SANDFORD CORSER seconded, and it was carried, that a hearty vote of thanks be given to the Rev. W. A. Leighton for acting as their hon. editor during the past year.

Mr BEACALL observed that Mr Stanley Leighton had suggested the appointment of an interpreter of ancient

manuscripts, but he wished to remind them that the Rev W. A. Leighton had gratuitously acted as interpreter for a long time. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. A. T. PELHAM proposed a vote of thanks to their treasurer, Mr T. Slaney Eytton, for his services as treasurer during the past year.

The Rev. F. W. KITTERMASTER seconded the proposition, which was carried.

The Rev. T. AUDEN moved a vote of thanks to the auditors, Mr H. J. Oldroyd and Dr. Calvert.

Dr CRANAGE seconded the motion, and said he wished to say a few words about the house in which he himself lived—the Old Hall, Wellington. It was the property of Lord Forester, and his lordship's agent told him that it was originally built more than a thousand years ago. It had never been entirely removed, but rebuilt in places, and some of the old house still remained. In the kitchen were enormous chimneys and great hearths, and he did not think there were any like them in Shropshire. They were made of stones 4ft. by 2ft. 6in., and some more than that. The house had been built at various periods. A few years ago he was making some alterations in the building by pulling down a partition, when he found some wattle. Branches of oak during the summer had been placed as uprights, smaller branches and twigs placed between them, and these were covered with mud. This was done before the use of trowels, and there were to be seen the marks of hands and fingers. In another room of the house were specimens of fine black oak, and in cleaning this a few years ago—his grandfather had painted it a sage-green—(laughter)—he found around the cornices an underlaying of gold, and very beautiful it must at one time have looked. If anyone present would like to look through the house he should be very pleased to receive them, for it contained many things of interest.

The proposition having been put and carried, a vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the meeting.

THE POWYS-LAND CLUB.

The nineteenth annual meeting of the Powys-land Club was held on Friday at the Museum, Welshpool, the President, the Earl of Powis in the chair, Mr Peter Arthur Beck (High Sheriff), Mr Robert Davies Pryce (Lord Lieutenant of Merionethshire), Captain Meyrick Pryce, Miss Mytton, Captain Mytton, of Garth, and Miss and Master Mytton, Mr William Fisher, Ven. Archdeacon Thomas, Rev D. P. Lewis, Rev Prebendary Matthews, Mr and Mrs Alraham Howell, Mr G. D. Harrison (Clerk of the Peace), Mr W. Forrester Addie, Mr Charles Jones, Mr Thomas Withy, Mr Withy, Rev J. E. Hill and Miss Ella Hill, Mr and Mrs Halliday-Wright, Rev W. and Miss Corfield, Rev F. and Mrs Hawkins, Mrs M. C. Jones and Miss Jones, Miss and Master Dovaston, Miss Clarke, Mr Shuker Clarke, Mrs Roper, Miss Salter, Mr and Mrs Elijah Pryce, Mr J. Bickerton Morgan, the Rev John Eaton, Mr Morris C. Jones and Mr Richard Williams, honorary secretaries, and the art students and their friends.

The PRESIDENT said he would now ask the Secretary, Mr Morris Jones, to read the report, which gave details of the changes that had taken place in the Club. During the past year they had lost several members by death, among whom were Archdeacon Ffoulkes and Mrs Pryce of Gunley. They had had, however, a considerable accession of new members. The treasurer had a balance in hand of £94, which was satisfactory. The vacancy in the Council caused by the death of Archdeacon Ffoulkes had been filled up by the appointment of his successor, Archdeacon Thomas. A special volume of the Transactions was now appearing, consisting of some of the old papers of Powis Castle which the Historical Commissioners selected when

they visited that neighbourhood, and which he had given to the Society as an extra number. The Commissioner who visited Welshpool, Mr Alfred Lisle, had since his visit been appointed Deputy-Keeper of the Records, so that he was at the head of that important branch of historical inquiry. With regard to the Art School, that had not been so flourishing. There was before him a specimen of carved work done by one of the pupils which he thought would interest them; but the numbers had fallen off so that it had not been possible to keep it up as an Art School, and it had been obliged to be maintained on a rather lower establishment as an Art Class. The number of persons who attended and the fees received did not suffice to remunerate the teacher, who had to come from Shrewsbury, for making such a long journey as frequently as before. He hoped, however, that the Art Class would keep alive, because he thought it was a matter of importance to the rising generation in that neighbourhood that they should have the means of getting good sound instruction in drawing at reasonable cost. Whether a young man went in a shop or in an office, a knowledge of drawing was of very great advantage. Drawing and shorthand were two arts which no young man in the present day who was engaged, or who expected to be engaged in business ought to be without. He thought that in the interests of athletics they would be disposed to add a third qualification, namely, that they should be able to move about rapidly by riding a bicycle. To young ladies a knowledge of drawing and design was very useful. One great branch of our industry which was very flourishing in Ireland — lace making — depended very much on the excellence of the patterns. That was an industry which afforded employment to a very large number of people of Ireland, and was not extinct in England, but they might see by the patterns of old lace that that was a matter in which, with all our boasted progress, we had something to learn from the art of two or three centuries ago. He hoped, therefore, that that class would receive sufficient encouragement to enable it to be continued. He would now request the Secretary to read the report.

Mr R. WILLIAMS, one of the hon. secretaries, then read the following report:—

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Committee, in presenting their 19th annual report, have the pleasure of stating that, although they have not altogether escaped the effects of the general depression, the financial position of the Club continues satisfactory.

The Club has lost five members by death, viz., William Thomas Parker, Esq., Ven. Archdeacon Ffolkes, John Jones, Esq., Bellan House, Oswestry, William Bransby Powys, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn Fields, and Mrs Pryce of Gunley. Seven members have resigned, or been removed from the list of members for non-payment of subscriptions. On the other hand, 14 new members have been enrolled.

The Treasurer, after defraying all liabilities of the Club up to the 1st of October, has a balance in hand of £94 14s 7d.

The vacancy in the Council caused by the lamented death of Archdeacon Ffolkes has been filled up by the appointment of Archdeacon Thomas, which is submitted to the meeting for confirmation.

The usual annual volume of Transactions, being the 19th, has been issued to the members.

The Historical MSS. Commissioners' 10th Report having brought into prominent notice certain historical documents relating to the Herbert family, which, though not all of a local nature, are nevertheless of considerable and general interest, our President generously offered to have them printed in the Montgomeryshire Collections, an offer which the Council accepted with alacrity and much gratitude.

The Club has thus been enabled this year to issue an extra volume, forming the 20th of the Collections, the contents of which cannot fail to prove highly interesting and valuable.

The PRESIDENT next called upon the TREASURER (Mr

Peter Beck) to read the financial report. The report showed a balance in hand at the beginning of the year of £58 13s 11d; receipts, £210 19s; total, £269 12s 11d; payments, £117 18s 4d; balance, £94 14s 7d.

The PRESIDENT then moved that the report now read be printed and circulated, and that the Venerable Archdeacon Thomas's appointment as a member of the Council in lieu of Archdeacon Ffolkes be confirmed. He was sure that Archdeacon Thomas's services on the Council would be as valuable as those of his lamented predecessor. (Cheers.)

Captain MYTTON said he begged to second the adoption of that resolution. He thought they might congratulate themselves that in these days of insolvency the Club was in a satisfactory condition. In the hands of that able financier, Mr Morris Jones, he did not think it was likely to become insolvent. They all regretted the vacancies which had occurred owing to the deaths which had taken place during the past year. The appointment of the Venerable Archdeacon Thomas, in the place of the late Venerable Archdeacon Ffolkes, they were now asked to confirm. Archdeacon Thomas's connection with the Cambrian Archaeological Association would be of great service to their own institution, the Powys-land Club, and he did not think a better appointment could have been made. (Cheers.) The Secretaries, he thought they ought to notice, had been carefully tracing out the genealogies of many of the families in that county. It must be a satisfaction to those families to see their pedigrees recorded in the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, and also an encouragement to them to keep the family name and fame untarnished, and to make good selections in their family connections. He had much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report.

The motion having been carried,

The PRESIDENT said he would now call upon the Rev J. E. Hill to read the report of the Powys-land School of Art Committee.

Mr HILL then read the report, which was as follows:—

POWYS-LAND SCHOOL OF ART.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

The attendance of the classes and the fees received or due have been as follows:—

	DAY CLASS.			EVENING CLASS.		
	Attend- ance.	Fees. £ s. d.		Attend- ance.	Fees. £ s. d.	
Term commencing Dec. 15, 1885	5	16 0	..	26	6 7 6	
Term ending March 19, 1886	8	7 8 0	..	22	5 10 0	
Term ending July 13, 1886	9	6 15 6	..	20	4 18 6	
		19 19 6			16 16 0	
					19 19 6	
					36 15 6	

The last year's fees amounted to £48 0s 11d, which shows a falling off of £11 15s 6d.

Examinations.—On the 3rd, 4th, and 6th May, examinations of the classes were held by the Science and Art Department, when the following offered themselves for examination, including two external pupils:—

Second Grade.—For model drawing 6, freehand 10, geometrical 6, perspective 2.

Third Grade.—Outline from cast, for prizes only, 4.

Arthur Henry Wainwright received his full certificate of having passed the second grade examination in freehand, geometrical, perspective, and model drawing.

No prizes were obtained, but the following eight certificates:—Mary Jane Davies, model drawing; Mary Louisa Dovaston, freehand drawing; Rees Evans, perspective drawing; Henry Farr, model drawing; Katherine Anne Roper, freehand drawing; Percy Ed. de Winton Scott, freehand drawing; Stanley Herbert Davies, outside pupil, freehand drawing; ditto, geometry.

Results of Work.—In the Elementary Section 13 students submitted 91 works and obtained 44 marks. In the Advanced Section 7 students submitted 12 works and obtained 18 marks, and

four students submitted 18 works for prizes only, but obtained none. One of the students, Arthur Henry Wainwright, as his work submitted a carved panel, which obtained 7 marks, and is exhibited to the meeting as a most creditable production.

Alteration of meetings of Classes from twice to once per week.

At the end of the School of Art year, which is now arranged to terminate with the examinations in May, the Committee received a communication from the master, Mr Charles Cortisios, suggesting to them that an alteration should be made in the number of times the classes meet during the week, as he found it did not remunerate him to attend twice on the present terms, because although the fee for the day class is one guinea, students seldom join for the full term, and the evening class fees are not sufficiently large to make up for such deficiency. He also expressed his opinion that it would answer quite as well if the classes were to meet once a week, for which he proposed the fees should be for the day class 12s 6d per term of ten weeks, and for the evening class 3s 6d for the same.

This proposed alteration would have the effect of reducing the School of Art to an Art Class.

The Committee, considering that the advantages obtained from the Science and Art Department by a School of Art, since the grant of £10 for the register has been discontinued, are no greater than those obtained by an Art Class (except in one particular, the loan of pictures), and that the classes one day a week will meet the requirements of most of the students, resolved to adopt the master's suggestion, and upon a communication being made to the department accordingly the change has been effected, and the Art Class has been recognized by the Department.

An amateur concert was given in the spring, the proceeds of which have enabled the Committee to keep out of debt.

The PRESIDENT next presented the certificates to the successful candidates.

Archdeacon THOMAS said that before proposing the motion which had been put into his hands he wished to take the opportunity of thanking the Club for the honour they had done him in appointing him a member of their Council. He had, as Captain Mytton had remarked, a good deal to do with the same kind of work in connection with the *Archæologia Cambrensis*. He was afraid that as his hands were very full he should not be able to give as much attention to, and to assist as he should wish to do, the Powys-land Club; but he would give it his full sympathy, and he hoped he might be able to do something more. He would now proceed to propose the resolution which had been put into his hands, and in doing so he must suppose for a moment that his lordship was not present. The resolution was, "That the best thanks of the Club be given to the President for presiding and for his unexampled act of princely munificence in presenting to the Powys-land Club the volume of Herbert MSS." The resolution divided itself into two parts. First of all it thanked his lordship for presiding over that meeting. It looked at first sight rather like tautology to thank the President for presiding; but he thought it was intended to express their pleasure and gratification at his being there once more, and he (Archdeacon Thomas) believed his lordship had been there at every anniversary since the foundation of the Club. (Cheers.) He was sure of this, that whatever Lord Powis undertook to do he would carry out loyally and faithfully, and his undertaking the office of President of that Club implied, almost as a matter of course, that he would always be there upon that occasion to fulfil the duties of that office. He thought they might congratulate themselves upon having at the head of the Powys-land Club, one who was in every respect fitted for that position. There were several qualifications for the office to be taken into consideration. First, they should look at the broad acres; but there were others who had broad acres. Then the head of the Club should be one who would give attention to and take a thorough interest in matters relating to the county. This also their President

did, but there were others also they would say in the county who took a very strong and continuous interest in its affairs. When they went beyond to the particular qualifications for the office of President of a literary society, they had especially to congratulate themselves upon having the Earl of Powis at the head of their Club. Besides the excellent promise of his career at Cambridge, the honour conferred upon him by his own University, the ripe scholarship which distinguished him and which he never neglected, they knew the interest he took in all matters relating to education, and the intellectual welfare of the country. Whether it was the Art School at Welshpool, or the University College at Bangor, or wherever they looked, they found their President fulfilling his duties in a way they had reason to be proud of, as being members of a club over which he presided so well. The other part of the resolution referred to his lordship's munificence in presenting the Club with the volume of Herbert Manuscripts. There was, he (the Archdeacon) thought, a peculiar appropriateness in the fact that the twentieth volume of the *Montgomeryshire Collections* marking, as it were, the second decade of the existence of the Powys-land Club, should be devoted to manuscripts relating to the family of which he was the honoured head. The volume was divided into three parts, the first part miscellaneous, dating from 1586 to 1735; the second part, from 1614 to 1626, gave the correspondence of Sir Edward Herbert, first Lord Herbert; and the third part contained the despatches of Sir Edward Herbert for the year 1619. The second and third parts bore upon matters not only of local, but of national interest, and shed a great deal of light upon international questions, thus raising the club a stage higher, by enabling it to publish not only local information, but also contributions upon matters of national interest and value. He thought the first part of the three would especially excite attention and interest amongst them in Montgomeryshire. Besides a very interesting account of the examination and confession of Mary, Queen of Scots, there were local matters of interest, and one of special satisfaction to them as an antiquarian and archæological club in the county of Montgomery. Whereas in one of the items they were told of the sad fate which was ordained, and which unhappily befel Montgomery Castle, they had in the case of Powis Castle an order countermanding its destruction, and thus it was that their President possessed a habitation worthy of his name and worthy of his antecedents, and that they had close at hand a building which was, he might say, the great ornament of their county and of Powys-land. There were many other matters of interest in the first portion, the miscellaneous portion of the volume. There was, for instance, a great deal of information in relation to the Commonwealth party, and there was one particular letter which struck him very much. They had often heard of novels concocted in order to create an evil suspicion. There was a letter in the collection bearing on a matter of national interest, the religion of James II. The letter was from Father Peter. He would not say anything about it; but he was sure that anyone who read it would feel that no condemnation from the outside could bear comparison with the revelation made in that letter of the intrigues carried on in an underhand way. Before sitting down he should just like to refer to the nineteenth volume, the information in which was full of the interest which had marked all the preceding volumes. He thought he might almost say that no county, not only in the Principality, but in the whole kingdom, could show such a record of information and historical material relating to the different parishes and parts of which it was composed. In the very last volume there was an interesting account

written by one of the co-secretaries, Mr R. Williams. There were a number of points in it which might serve as a peg upon which to hang many remarks. The writer asked a question to which he would just refer. One little amusing slip was made upon the subject of early interments. In reference to funerals at Llanbrynmair there was an instance of someone who in 1617 was buried "amiculo ferali panni tenuis involutus," which was translated "wrapped by a friend in a thin funeral cloth." It was a rather natural mistake to fall into with reference to the word "amiculo." It was not the diminutive of "amicus," but was from "amiculum," and meant "a shroud," "wrapped in a funeral shroud of thin cloth" (hannel), as was, he believed, very much the custom of those days. This brought him to the question asked about burying without coffins. He imagined that the custom of burial with coffins was of comparatively late introduction. Down to the end of the seventeenth century it was almost the universal custom, except among very rich and important people, to be buried simply in a shroud without any coffin at all. In those days funerals were not put off for three or four days, or a week after death. People were buried the day after death, and very often the same day, the reason being that they did not keep them or bury them in coffins. He was glad to find that their secretaries had agreed to reprint the Pedigrees bearing special reference to Welshpool. He thought this plan made their publications handier and more interesting. Upon a former occasion he recommended it, but it did not seem to approve itself to them. The same plan might, he believed, be adopted with advantage with regard to the parochial histories. There were many people who could not afford to subscribe to the Powys land Club, and could much less afford the luxury of a whole series of the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, who would be delighted to have the history of their own parish, if only it were deemed desirable in the interests of the Club, as he thought it was, that reprints of parochial histories should be available in the parishes to which they related. He begged to move the resolution of thanks to the President which had been placed in his hands.

The Rev. D. P. LEWIS said he rose with great pleasure to second the resolution which had been proposed by the Venerable Archdeacon Thomas, and after the Archdeacon's very exhaustive address, he (Mr Lewis) hoped they would excuse him if his remarks were exceedingly short, as he knew some of the gentlemen present were exceedingly anxious to get away by a train which was due in a few minutes. They were all extremely delighted year after year at the honour and privilege of having Lord Powis to preside over them at their meetings. His lordship was one who was both able and willing to do so. There were others who might be willing, but who were not nearly so able as his lordship. At the same time they had to thank him for what certainly might be called an act of princely munificence—his paying for the publication of those most interesting and valuable documents, the Herbert Manuscripts. He called them interesting and valuable because such documents, brought forward from the store rooms of great families, shed a great deal of light upon some of the secret recesses of ancient history, thus enabling history by degrees to advance to a scientific accuracy. At the same time they were of extreme interest in the light they threw upon the manners and customs of those times, and as illustrating the great changes which took place in language in the course of a century or two, and the very different way in which words were used both in English and French. He should not recommend any young man going in for a competitive examination to study these documents as a means of improving his

spelling, because the change made in spelling since they were written was most extraordinary and remarkable. These records, both for the language and the information they contained, were exceedingly interesting and valuable, and he was sure they had all great cause to thank Lord Powis for his great munificence in defraying the cost of their publication. He begged leave to second the resolution.

Archdeacon THOMAS then put the resolution to the meeting, and it was carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT, in reply, said he was very much obliged to them for the compliment they had been so good as to pay him. He was very glad to be able to attend the annual meeting of that Society. He thought they were all very much obliged to Archdeacon Thomas for the account he had given of the twentieth volume of the *Collections*.

Mr HOWELL said there was one vote which their Secretary, Mr Morris C. Jones, was too modest to allow to be included in the programme. It was a vote of thanks to their honorary secretaries. This was the nineteenth annual meeting, and he himself having been an inefficient member of the Council of the Club from its commencement, he had a somewhat intimate knowledge of the labours which their friend Mr M. C. Jones had gratuitously undergone, and his devotion to the objects of the Society had been such as to deserve their warmest thanks. Nothing short of such unwearied zeal and devotion, and his discretion, could have established, and so successfully kept up the Society, and given them the very great public benefits they had derived from it. In regard to Mr R. Williams, who had latterly been added as one of the secretaries, he (Mr Howell) knew much of his ability, industry, and the interest he took in matters within the scope and object of the Society, and thought that his addition as one of the secretaries was a fortunate selection. He (Mr Howell) held in his hand a card which turned up a few days ago, and which had been received from a relative, an elderly lady, the late Mrs Edward Jones, who died in his house a few years ago, at the advanced age of ninety-two years, who well recollected the celebration to which the card referred, as well as many other of the important events which attracted the enthusiastic attention of Welshpool and surrounding district during the long period, commencing with the latter part of the last, and commencement of the present century. Of that card the following was a copy :—

No. 287. Table 4.
Celebration of Peace.
Welshpool, 1814.
Admit Ann Jones.

His late relative had often told him that the tables, bountifully spread on that occasion, extended from the Town Hall to the Cross Pump. The other important event of the following year, 1815, namely the Battle of Waterloo, was commemorated by the erection by the inhabitants of the bridge in the town over the Lledan brook, called Waterloo Bridge; and a third important event which followed a few years later, in which the district took the greatest interest, was the union of the Powis Castle and Wynnastay Houses by the marriage of the grandfather of the present baronet, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, and his grandmother, Lady Harriet Clive, the sister of the late Earl of Powis, the father of the present Earl, which was commemorated by the erection of another bridge in the town over the same brook, called "Union Bridge." Of all those events among others of the period he had mentioned, the lady to whom he referred had a very lively recollection. Histories of the important contemporary events, and others of a very much earlier

date, were now recorded and resuscitated, and transmitted to posterity by the able and devoted zeal of the Secretaries of this Society, and he knew all would be glad to express their warmest thanks. (Cheers.)

The motion was put to the meeting, and carried unanimously, and the proceedings then terminated.

After the meeting there was exhibited in the gallery of art a large picture sent for the purpose by Messrs. Thomas Richardson and Co., 43, Piccadilly, London. The picture is by William Linnell, and is of large dimensions, and the subject is one of great interest to Welshmen:—The introduction of Christianity amongst the Welsh, by Bran, the Cymric Bard. "Bran the Blessed, Son of Llyr Llediaith, first brought the Faith of Christ to the nation of the Cymry from Rome, A.D. 59, when he had been seven years a hostage for his son Caradog (Caractacus) whom the Romans had taken captive." "Vide 'Ecclesiastical Antiquities of the Cymry,' Triad 35." (Sed Vide Rees's "Welsh Saints," p. 77.) The picture was inspected by those present, the general impression being that the subject was skilfully and effectively portrayed.

GENERAL ELECTION, JULY, 1886.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF M.P.'S FOR WALES AND BORDER COUNTIES.

Where there is more than one member for any constituency the number of members follows the name of the place.

L. signifies Liberal and supporter of Mr Gladstone's Irish policy; N., Irish Nationalist and supporter of Mr Gladstone's Irish policy; C., Conservative and opponent of Mr Gladstone's Irish policy; D.L., Liberal and opponent of Mr Gladstone's Irish policy.

W A L E S .

ANGLESEY.

Thos. Lewis (L)	3,727
Capt. Rayner (C)	3,420
Majority	307

1885—R Davies, L, 4,412 Pritchard Rayner, C, 3,462 Majority—950

BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

W F Maitland (L), returned unopposed

1885—W F Maitland, L, 4,784 Hon. A Morgan, C, 3,282 Majority—1502

CARNARVONSHIRE, North

W. Rathbone (L)	4,072
Col. Platt (C)	2,950
Majority	1,122

1885—Rathbone, L, 4,562 Platt, C, 2,831 Majority—1,731

CARNARVONSHIRE, South

J. Bryn Roberts (L)	4,244
G. Farren (D.L)	1,267

Majority — 2,977

1885—Roberts, L, 4,535 H J E Nanney, C, 2,573 Majority—1,962

CARNARVON BOROUGHES.

E. Swetenham (C)	1,820
Jones-Parry (L)	1,684

Majority — 136

1885—Jones-Parry, L, 1,923 Swetenham, C, 1,858 Majority—65

CARMARTHENSHIRE—Eastern Division

David Pugh (L) returned unopposed

1885—Pugh, L, 4,487 Sir M O Lloyd, C, 2,122 Majority—2,365

CARMARTHENSHIRE—Western Division

W. R. H. Powell (L)	4,181
Lawrence (D.L)	1,916

Majority — 2,265

1885—Powell, L, 4,566 Viscount Emlyn, C, 2,940 Majority—1,626

CARMARTHEN BOROUGHES.

Stepney (L)	2,120
Jenkins (D.L)	1,897

Majority — 223

1885—Sir J J Jenkins, L, 2,984 Simmonds Tregoning, C, 1,281 Majority—1,703

CARDIGANSHIRE.

Bowen Rowlands (L)	4,252
D Davies (D.L)	4,243

Majority — 9

1885—Davies, L, 5,967 Vaughan Davies, C, 3,644 Majority—2,323

DENBIGHSHIRE, East

G. Osborne Morgan (L)	3,536
Sir W. W. Wynn (C)	3,510

Majority — 26

1885—Morgan, L, 3,831 Wynn, C, 3,438 Majority—393

DENBIGHSHIRE, West

Colonel Cornwallis West (D.L) returned unopposed

1885—West, L, 4,586 Mainwaring, C, 2,992 Majority—1,594

DENBIGH BOROUGHES.

Hon. G. T. Kenyon (C)	1,657
J. E. Barlow (L)	1,446

Majority — 211

1885—Kenyon, C, 1,761 Cunliffe, L, 1,455 Majority—306

FLINTSHIRE.

S. Smith (L) returned unopposed

1885—Lord R Grosvenor, L, 4,758 Hon H S L Mostyn, C, 3,132 Majority—1,626 Lord R Grosvenor having been raised to the peerage, Mr Smith was subsequently elected.

FLINT BOROUGHES.

John Roberts (L)	1,827
Jackson (D.L)	1,403

Majority — 424

1885—J Roberts, L, 1,835 J Pennant, C, 1,713 Majority—122

GLAMORGANSHIRE, East

Alfred Thomas (L) returned unopposed

1885—A Thomas, L, 4,886 G L Clark, C, 2,086 Majority—2,800

GLAMORGANSHIRE, Gower Division

F A Yeo (L), returned unopposed

1885—F A Yeo, L, 5,560 H N Mires, C, 2,103. Majority—3,457

GLAMORGANSHIRE, Rhondda Division

W. Abraham (L) returned unopposed

1885—W Abraham (Labour), L, 3,859 F Davies, L, 2,092 Majority—867

GLAMORGANSHIRE, South

J. A. Williams (L)	3,497
Mowatt (D.L)	2,177

Majority — 1,320

1885—Williams, L, 3,945 Llewellyn, C, 3,351 Majority—594

GLAMORGAN, Mid

C R M Talbot (L), returned unopposed
1885—No contest

SWANSEA DISTRICT.

Sir Hussey Vivian (L), returned unopposed
1885—No contest

CARDIFF.

Sir E. J. Reed (L) 5,307
Brand (D.L)... .. 4,965
Majority — 342

1885—Sir E J Reed, L, 5,569 H Harben, C, 5,429 Majority—140

MERTHYR TYDVIL, 2.

H. Richard (L), returned unopposed
C. H. James (L), returned unopposed
1885—No contest

SWANSEA.

L. L. Dillwyn (L) 3,040
A. J. Lambert (C) 1,740
Majority — 2,300

1885—Dillwyn, L, 3,660 Meredith, C, 2,520 Majority—1,140

MERIONETHSHIRE.

T. E. Ellis, (L) 4,127
J. Vaughan, (C) 2,860
Majority — 1,267

1885—Robertson, L, 3,784. W R M Wynne (C), 2,211 Morgan
Lloyd, Q.C. (L), 1,907 Majority—1,573

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

Stuart Rendel (L) 3,799
Capt. Mytton (C) 3,220
Majority — 579

1885—Stuart Rendel, L, 4,014 C W W Wynn, C, 3,339 Majority—
655

MONTGOMERY BOROUGHES.

Hon. F. Hanbury Tracy (L) ... 1,424
Pryce Jones (C) 1,251
Majority — 173

1885—Pryce Jones, C, 1,409 Hon F A Hanbury Tracy, L, 1,326
Majority—83

PEMBROKESHIRE.

W. Davies (L) 4,099
C. E. G. Philipps (C) 3,983
Majority — 116

1885—W Davies, L, 4,999 CE G Philipps, C, 3,738, Majority—1,261

PEMBROKE AND HAVERFORDWEST GROUP.

Admiral R. Mayne (C) 2,305
Morris (L) 2,033
Majority — 272

1885—H G Allen, Q.C, L, 2,415 Admiral R Mayne, C, 2,150
Majority—265

RADNORSHIRE.

Walsh (C) 1,910
Green Price (L) 1,668
Majority — 242

1885—Hon A H J Walsh, C, 1,880 C C Rogers, L, 1,813
Majority—67

BORDER COUNTIES.

CHESHIRE, Birkenhead Division.

Sir E Hamley (C) 5,255
W. R. Kennedy (L) 4,086
Majority — 1,169

1885—Sir E. Hamley, C, 5,733 W. R. Kennedy, L, 4,460
Majority—1,273

CHESHIRE, Chester.

Yerburgh (C) 2,549
Foster (L) 2,483
Majority — 66

1885—Dr Foster, L, 2,740 R A Yerburgh, C, 2,440 Maj rity—
330

CHESHIRE, Altrincham Division.

W. C. Brooks (C), returned unopposed
1885—W C. Brooks, C, 4,798 I S Leadam, L, 4,046 Majority—
752

CHESHIRE, Crewe Division.

McLaren (L) 4,620
Twemlow (C) 4,045
Majority — 645

1885—G W Latham, L, 5,039 O L Stephen, C, 4,231 Majority—
808

CHESHIRE, Northwich Division.

W. H. Verdin (D.L) 4,416
J. T Brunner (L) 3,758
Majority — 658

1885—J T Brunner, L, 5,023 W H Verdin, C, 3,995 Majority—
1,023

CHESHIRE, Macclesfield Division.

W. B. Davenport (C) 3,283
W. C Brocklehurst (L) 2,756
Majority — 527

1885—W C Brocklehurst, L, 3,311 Brooks, C, 2,346 Majority—
465

CHESHIRE, Wirral Division.

Captain Cotton (C) returned unopposed
1885—Capt. Cotton, C, 4,756 J Tomkinson, L, 3,261. Majority—
1,495

CHESHIRE, Eddisbury Division.

H. J. Tollemache (C) 4,357
Tomkinson, (L) 3,678
Majority — 679

1885—H J Tollemache, C, 4,235 L Irwell, L, 4,164 Majority—
121

CHESHIRE, Hyde Division.

Sidebottom (C) 4,328
Ashton (L) 3,885
Majority — 443

1885—T G Ashton, L, 4,546 Col. W J Legh, C, 3,990 Majority—
556

CHESHIRE, Knutsford Division.

Hon. Alan Egerton (C) returned unopposed
1885—Hon. Alan Egerton, C, 4,663 J E Barlow, L, 3,419
Majority—1,244

CHESHIRE, Stockport, 2.

L. J Jennings (C) 4,702
S Gedge (C) 4,495
J Leigh (L) 4,034
Sir Horace Davey (L) 3,938

1885—Jennings C, 4,885 Tipping C, 4,498 Leigh L, 4,486 Hopwood
L, 4,132

HEREFORDSHIRE, Leominster Division.

Rankin (C)	4,287
Lucas (L)	2,394

Majority —1,893

1885—T Duckham, L, 3,871 J Rankin, C, 3,750 Majority—121

HEREFORDSHIRE, Ross Division.

Biddulph (D.L)	3,968
Duckham (L)	1,670

Majority —2,298

1885—M. Biddulph, L, 4,415 Sir Joseph Bailey, C, 3,640 Majority—775

HEREFORD.

Sir Joseph Bailey (C)	1,401
Joseph Pulley (L)	1,136

Majority —265

1885—J Pulley, L, 1,360 W Barneby, C, 1,296 Majority—64

MONMOUTHSHIRE, North Division.

Price (L)	4,678
Jones (C)	3,275

Majority —1,403

1885—J P Price, L, 5,693 J A Rolls, C, 3,223 Majority—2,467

MONMOUTHSHIRE, South Division.

Morgan (C)	5,235
Bryant (L)	2,930

Majority —2,305

1885—Hon F C Morgan, C, 4,891 Sir H Jackson, L, 4,293 Majority—598

MONMOUTHSHIRE, West Division.

C. M. Warmington, Q.C. (L) returned unopposed

1885—C M Warmington, Q.C, L, 6,739 B F Williams, C, 1,431 Majority—5,299

MONMOUTH DISTRICT.

Elliott (C)	3,033
Carbutt (L)	2,568

Majority —465

1885—E H Carbutt, L, 2,932 T Cordes, C, 2,922 Majority—10

SHROPSHIRE, Shrewsbury.

J Watson (C)	1,826
M Jones (L)	1,267

Majority —559

1885—Watson C, 2,214 Waring L, 1,512 Majority—732

SHROPSHIRE, Wellington Division.

A H Brown (D.L), returned unopposed.

1885—A H Brown, L, 4,801 Lieut.-Col Kenyon-Slaney, C, 2,571 Majority—2,230

SHROPSHIRE, Newport Division.

Kenyon-Slaney (C)	4,460
Higgins (L)	2,884

Majority —1,576

1885—R Bickersteth, L, 4,694 Viscount Newport, C, 4,333 Majority—361

SHROPSHIRE, Ludlow Division.

R Jasper More (D.L), returned unopposed

1885—R Jasper More, L, 4,642 Sir B Leighton, C, 4,078 Majority—564

SHROPSHIRE, Oswestry Division.

Stanley Leighton (C), returned unopposed

1885—Stanley Leighton, C, 4,753 H Jephson, L, 3,772 Majority—91

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF LOCAL M.P.'S.

ELLIS, THOMAS EDWARD (Merionethshire).—Mr Thos. Edward Ellis (Liberal), the new member for Merionethshire, is the son of a tenant farmer in the county, who was destined for the Methodist Ministry, but went up to Oxford (New College), did well there (taking honours in classics and modern history), became interested in social and political questions, and has now found himself, at the age of twenty-six, in Parliament. He is a thorough Welshman, an advanced Radical, an energetic Calvinistic Methodist, a fluent Welsh speaker, a frequent contributor to the Welsh press, and, according to one of the national journals, he is going to "open a new political life to the Welsh people." At present he is private secretary to Mr Brunner, formerly member and now defeated Liberal candidate for the Northwich Division of Cheshire. Before going to Oxford Mr Ellis was educated at Bala College, and at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

LEWIS, THOMAS (Anglesey).—Mr Thos. Lewis (Liberal) of Brynogwen, Bangor, is a son of Mr Thomas Lewis, tenant farmer, of Cemaes, Anglesey, and was born in 1821. He was educated at the National School, Llanfechell, and is engaged in business as a corn and flour merchant.

SWETENHAM, EDMUND (Carnarvon Boroughs).—Mr Edmund Swetenham, Q.C. (Conservative), of Cam-yr-Alyn, Rossett, Wrexham, is the second son of the late Mr Clement Swetenham of Somerford Booths Hall, Cheshire, by his marriage with Miss Eleanor Buchanan. He was born in 1822, was educated at Oxford, and was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1848, when he chose the North Wales Circuit. Mr Swetenham, who is in the commission of the Peace for the county of Denbigh, was created a Q.C. in 1880. He has been twice married, first to Elizabeth, daughter of Mr Wilson Jones of Hartsheath Park, Denbighshire; and secondly, in 1867, to Gertrude, second daughter of Mr Ellis Cunliffe. He unsuccessfully contested this constituency in November last.

NOVEMBER 10, 1886.

NOTES.

OLD MANUSCRIPT.—There is the following item in the Advertisement of J. E. Cornish, Manchester, which appears in *Notes and Queries* of 30th October, 1886:—

Old Manuscript.—At the Great Sessions in Counties of Montgomery and Denbigh from 1713-14 to 1722. An Account of what Fines and Recoveries were levied and suffered and also compounded at the said Sessions with the writer's name.

Ricus Rocke me jure tenet, Ano' 1714.

4to Old parchment binding, £2 2s.

J.

ROMAN CAMP AT CAERSWS.—As is well known the Roman Camp at Caersws is intersected by the road that goes to Machynlleth, but perhaps it is not so well known that the ground on the Workhouse side of the camp was "commins" in the days of the living, at least an old woman who lived in one of the cottages close to the camp, told the writer, some fifteen years ago, that she remembered the ground on that side unenclosed. She stated further that a lane or road ran close to and parallel with the camp on that or the north side. This road was probably the parish road before the formation of the Machynlleth road, and corresponded with the fosse of the Roman Camp in still more ancient days. It was the ground on each side of this old lane or road that was free. Possibly the parish map would shew the

extent of the commons in the neighbourhood of the camp, and perhaps the learned and obliging Vicar of Llanwnnog, the Rev. D. Parry, in which parish the Roman Camp is situated, would kindly oblige the readers of *Bye-Gones* with a note on this matter. Even if the ground at the time the map were made, appears as appropriated, still, it might have been free to the inhabitants as land for their pigs, geese, and donkeys in the early days of the old lady who supplied me with the information contained in this note. E. O.

ANCIENT OSWESTRY — HARLEIAN MSS. (Oct. 14, 1885).—It will be interesting to give in full from *Harl: MS. (1981)* in the British Museum, the well known "John Davies's MS.," a "book in folio compiled by the command of the most noble Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel and Surrey, A.D. 1635, by John Davies of Midleton":—

OBSERVATIONS

OF

THE ANTIENT AND MODERNE NAMES OF
THE TOWNE AND BURROUGH OF OSWESTRY

OF SOME

places and things remarkable
in and neare the same

TOGETHER

With a Summarie

Discourse of the BARONS thereof
Since the Conquest.

Right Honble

I have at length accomplished yor Lor'ps comand in transcribing the Chres heretofore graunted by yor. noble Auncestors unto the Towne of Oswestrie, and now extant among their Records. The Coppie whereof together with such notes & observacons of myne owne (concerning the antient & moderne names of Oswestrie, & of some places and things remarkable in and neare the same, together wth a short discourse of the Baronie and all the Barons thereof since the Conquest as the scantnesse of Time and helpes could afford, I humbly present heere-with unto yor good Lor'p.

Better abilities may affoord greater expressions of dutie ; my only ambition was to obey yor hoble comand, in performance where of I have comen short (I confesse) of that exactnes I desired, and might doubt of the approbation of soe grave a judgment but that yor noble disposicion (I am perswaded) can as well beare with the weakest indeavors as applaud the ablest. And that gracious affabilitie provisech as much wch was soe much observed and soe gratelie admired in yor lor'p and yor most excellent ladie at yor late being in yor poore Oswestrie.

Yours, I call it, being one of yor antient Baronies, and yours wee desire to bee accounted, for soe yor princiellie progenitors were pleased to stile the Towne and people thereof.

Other Townes and places maie give greater testimonies of the dutie they owe yor lor'p, yett none (pardon my presumptuous confidence) can more truely honor yow than this : not only for yor personall worth, wch is soe generally admired even in forraine Courtes and Countries, but in a more special Relac'on unto yor most noble house and Auncestors of happie memorie, from whom wee had and continue our liberties and privileges : From whom alsoe this whole coast and Countrie derive their meanes, and have their lively hood.

For myself in particular, though I hould the least of Thousands in these partes, yett I thankfully acknow-

ledge I hould a portion of my poore meanes from yor noble great grandfather Henery Earl of Arundell, whom my grandfather served. And my father alsoe retayned unto the noble Earle of Suffolke yor Uncle ; soe that the dignities of the one and blood of both these Lordes being mett in yow wth ye improvement of their vertues : I wish I might or were anie waie able to doe yor lor'p beefore all others (next under God and my King) any acceptable service. Wch happinesse sith my obscuritie in the scantnesse of fortunes and abilities cannott hope to attayne unto : Yett in Prayers for yor lor'p : Yor dearie ladie and noble progenie I will ever continue.

From my poore house
at Midlton neare
Oswestrie the 15.
of December, 1635.

Your Honors
humble &
unfaindely devoted
JOHN DAVIES.

To the Right Ho'ble Thomas Earle of Arundel & Surrey Earle Marshall of England &c bee these humble p'tended.

1 The antient and moderne NAMES of the Towne and Burrough of

OSWESTRY

The Antient Towne and Burrough of Oswestrie in vulgar p'notiation sometimes called Osester and sometimes Osestry was formerly and more properly written and tearmed Oswald-estree, as app'eth by Giraldus Cambrensis, by the antient Court-rolles of the same Towne, and by divers Charters of the Earles of Arundell granted thereunto.

The natives thereof and the Welshe (antient and moderne) call it Cross-Oswald (that is to say) Oswald's cruceum vel arborem Oswald's crosse or tree, as the same Giraldus testifieth.

In the ould Latin Entries, and accordinglie at this p'sent it is written Oswestria ; But Mr Humfrey lloyd in his breviare to Ortelius stiles (and not improperly and with him Doctor Powell) Oswaldia ; nomen habiet (saith the learned Mr Camden) ab Oswaldo nordan (1) humbroru. rege ibi a Penda et Mertius occisio cu anter Masserfield vocantur. Soe that it takes the name of Kinge Oswald there slain by Penda Kinge of Mercia, whereas before the Saxons called that place Maserfelth, Math : of Westm : Ranulphus Obstreus and Fabian ; Maserfeld or Maserfield. This Saxon name was derived (as app'eth) from the ould British name thereof Mesen, wch in the oldde British and accordinglie in our moderne Welshe signifieth an Acorne, mees in the plurali number Acornes, meserid glandin. copia, plenty of Acornes, and Mes-bren an oak or the Acorne tree whence the Saxon Meserfeith (soe written by Beda) or Maserfield by the other historians and Antiquaries : Both beinge the same in sense, and heere in sound signififieth glandiu. campu. and sembably the ould Britaynes called the towne Tre'rvesen glandiu' urbem and accordingly the Welsh poet.

"Losgoth flagloth i ffen
trwy oer fesif tre'r fesen."

Maesbury, a hamlet in the p'rishe of Oswestry, is now called llys feisir or llys feisidd.

(1.) Nordan = humbroru i.e. Northumberland. Davies uses = in all compounds : it is not therefore the usual sign for equal to.

Lib: 2 Cap 22
Itinere.titul Shrop-
shire
MaserfieldLib. 1-224
Lib. 5, cap. 15
s'tion 5 cap.
184.

Herupon the Normans afterwards implying the reason and rendering the meaning of this antient Brittain name did call it Glanvill or Glandevill glandiu villa and the Welshe Bards sometime Tre-Koderi, the town of greate oakes, as beinge situate in a field then full of greate oakes growinge thereupon, and compassed therewith for a spacious distance and large circuit on every side— And therefore (as I suppose) the oaken bough was antiently the armes of the Towne of Oswestry; for upon their oulde Comm-seale of brasce (called the townse seale) I finde depicted a Kinge (in all likelihood King Oswald) sittinge on a chaire, houldinge a sword in his right hand, and in his left an Oaken bough. See that wh'n the noble owner of that antient crest the white horse came first to be owner and alsoe Baron of Oswestry, whether to evidence his love, or to add hon'r to the Towne, or takinge it as an hono'r to be Lord of the Towne, or either, hee put the oaken bough into his white horse's mouth, of w'ch white horse, and of that right noble peere whose crest it was, one made this disti-con (1)

Hii alacer sonifes in veo Candore superbus
Est gentilicii nobile stema sui.

The origin and reason of the first bearings of this Crest (nowe very ho'ble by the antiquity of the bearinge and nobility of the bearers thereof) I confesse I know not howsoever I take that conjecture of myne to be more probable (under favo'r and reformation (?)) than the other vulgar tradicon heere current amongst us (viz) of twoe noble Twynnes who to trie the right of primogeniture agreed to run a Race on horsback to a c'rtaine oake appointed to be the goale.—The one beinge mounted on a white steed, which cominge swift to the oake plucked a bough thereof and held it in his mouth and therefore hee took the horse soe houldinge the bough to be his crest in token of his victorie.

I finde one that would fayne derive the etimon of Croes-Oswald & Oswaldestrie to be more antient then Oswald & that the townse was not denominat of him, his opinion (the S'r Jo. Price, author of it being a learned gent) you shall take in his own words *Cunetha* Wledig (viz) hee) inhabitinge in the North p'te of England about the yeare 540 as well driven by the Saxons as for his inheritance w'th his eleven sonnes arrived in North-Wales and devided the Country betwixt them; Ussa one of his sons had Maes-Uswallt nowe Oswestry; for surlie that they saie com'only of Oswald Kinge of Northumberland to be slaine there & of the well that sprunge where his arme was carried, is nothinge soe: for Beda and all other writers saie that Peanda slue Oswald at Maserfeldt in the Kingdome of Northumberland & his bodie was buried in the Abbey of Bardney in the province of Lyndsey thus far this opinionist.

Under favor the concurrent testimonies of all writers before this one (whoe voucheth noe other authority for his opinion but his owne) doe agree in this, that Kinge Oswald was slaine at Maserfeld by Penda and his M'cians & that Oswestry before his death was called Maserfeld in the Kingdom of Mercia.

Regnavit Oswaldus rex christianissim's
Nord=humbornu' 9 annos et occisus est
Com'issa gravi p'lio ab eadem gente pagana
paganu's Rege mercioru' in Loco qui in
lingua Angloru' nuncupatur Maserfelth (soe
Bede)

Lib 3 Eng:
history
Cap. 9

[Oswald the most Christian King of the Northumbrians reigned nine years and is killed in a great battle by the same pagan nation and pagan King of the Mercians at a place called in the English tongue Maserfeld (2)]

But Bede doeth not saie that K Oswald was slaine in Northumberland but in Maserfelth & whether there weere any such place then soe called in Northumberland I doe not finde, but that Maserfeld was in Mercia and nowe called Oswestrie is more then evident as afforesaid. To confirm the testimonies p'cedent a late Chronicler voucheth Willia of Malmsbury in these words followinge; Penda the son of Webba a man active in Warres a frantick and most wicked man took on him the kingdome of Mercia when hee was fifty yeeres old; hee shooke the cities and disturbed the borders of the Kings that were his owne Countrey-men borne, he slue Edwin & Oswald Kinge of Northumberland, where Oswald was slaine is nowe situate the townse of Oswestrie w'ch of him took that name.

Stowes
Annals

That Kinge Oswald's bodie was buried in Bardney is not denied of any, but that doeth not prove that hee was not slaine at Oswestry, for hee might be slaine as well at Oswestrie as in Northumberland, & yett buriedd at Bardney w'ch is in Lincolnes shire when Penda slue Oswald he com'aunderd his heade & armes to be hanged on three poles whereupon the ould Xpian poet sange thus

Cuius et abscissu caput, abscissosque
Lacertos
Et tribus affixos palis pendere cruentus
Penda iubet; per quod reliquis exempla
relinquat

Ex vita Oswaldi There
was an old
oake lately
standing in
Mesburie
w'thin the
p'ish of Os-
westry wher-
on one of K.
Oswald's
arms hung
say ye
neighbours
by tradic'on.

Terror's manifesta sui, Regemq' beatu (3)
Esse probet miser sed causa fallit utramque
Ultor enim frateris minime timet Oswius illu
Imo timere facit nec (4) Rex miser, imo
beatus
Est, qui fonte boni fruitur semel, et sine
fine.

[The bloody victor Penda straight commands
Cut off the Monarch's head and both his hands
And each be fixed upon a lofty stake
That all beholders thence might warning take
Of Penda's power, and deem the holy king
A Wretch forlorn, but fails in either thing
Avenging Oswy, fearless of his hate
Approaches fast, nor dreads his brother's fate
Alarms the Conqueror and this lesson gives
The King who at the fount of blessings lives
In endless joy, howe'er in pieces torn
By tyrant's power, is not a wretch forlorn (5)]

(2) See Bohr's Edition of Bede, p 123 Note, where it is stated that some difference of opinion exists respecting Maserfeld. Camden, Capgrave, and others place it at Oswestry in Shropshire, and the name certainly favours their opinion. Alban Butler Powell, and Dr Cowper place it at Winwick in Lancashire and to support this their view there is an inscription on the outside of the South Wall of the parish Church.

(3) Beatum.

(4) Nec.

(5) Gibson's Camden, Vol. II. p. 399.

(1) Distich on.

Of the translation of Oswald's bones, and where his heade armes and hands were Lib: 3, cap. buried and by whome, Beda resolveth in 9, 11, & 12 these words—

Ossa illius (S'cti Oswaldi) translata et condita sunt in Monasterio quod diximus (Sc in monasterio in provincia len'disi all the province of Lincoln was called Lindsey) nomine Bearda=nam Bardney. Porro capui et manus cu' brachiis a corpore P'scissas jussit rex qui occiderat (Sc Penda) in stipitibus suspendi, Quo post annu' veniens cu' exercitu' successor Regni ejus Oswiu's abstulit ea, et caput quidem in cimeterio Lindifarensis eccleie, In regia vero civitate manus cu' brachiis condidit, In eccl'ia sti petra loculo inclusæ argenteo servantur.

[His Bones therefore were translated to the Monastery which we have mentioned and buried therein, that is in the Monastery in the province of Lindisi, by name Bearda, now Bardney, but the King that slew him that is Penda commanded his head, hands and arms to be cut off from the body and set on stakes.—But his successor in the throne, Oswy, coming thither the next year with his army, took them down and buried his head in the Church of Lindisfarne but the hands and arms are preserved in a little silver casket in the Church of St Peter in the Royal City. (1)]

Mr. Camden speakinge of the Abbey of titul: Lincolnshire. Bardney voucheth Bede to the same pur- pose, & hee treateth there of Oswald his shield, & citeth some verses made by a monke concerninge Oswald's hand which Remained in that Abbey for a long-time uncorrupt.

Nulla verne perit Nulla putredine tabet Dextra viri, etc.

[The following is the complete verse part of which Davies quoted:—

Nulla verne perit nullo putredine tabet
Dextra viri, nullo constringi frigore, nullo
Dissolvi fervie potest, sed semper eadem
Immutata statu persistit, mortua vivit.

From worm and putrefaction safe appears
The wondrous hand, nor cold nor heat it fears;
In the same state unaltered it survives,
And tho' long dead by miracle still lives.

Gibson's Camden, Vol. II. p. 229]

There is a church nowe called S'Oswald's Camd. Brit. tit: Northumberland. in Northumberland in or near Heafonfield Campus.

Coelestis nowe called Haledon, where Kinge Oswald slue Cedwal (?) the Britiane.

Quoque Loc'i p'sistat honos in honore beati Oswaldi Regis, ibi construxere Capella ex Oswaldi vita

[In further honor of the famous place
To Oswald's honor they a chapel raise]

There is alsoe Kirk-oswald dedicated to id'm tit: Cumberland. the same kinge Oswald in Cumberland neere Corbie Castle.

(1) Of the translation of these relics from Bardney to St. Oswald's, Gloucestershire, A.D. 910, by Ethelred earl of Mercia, and Elfreda the daughter of King Alfred, see Sim. Dunelm col. 152 Script Twyden. See also Leland Collectanea, London, 1770 Vol II p 367 and III p 299.

This name Oswald in the Saxon tounge, is as much to say as house-ruler or Steward.

This King Oswald was the sonne of Edelfrid the sixth Kinge of North'bers from Ida, hee was made in greate estimacon by the Brittaines Picts, Scotts & Englyshmen, as well for his religion as for his prudent pollicy and valour hee finished St. Peeters church in Yorke, wch Kinge Edwin hadd begun hee called Aidanus a Scott to convert his Countrymen to Christianity hee bare himselfe in all points like a most worthy iust & very charitable Christian Prince After his death for the opinion conceived of his holiness, hee was canonized a Sainte and hadd in great reverence of the people beinge the first of the English nation that approved his virtues by miracles shewed after his death.

There was another S' Oswald bishop of Worcester & Archbisshop of Yorke obitt 992, & was buried at Worcester Meracles are reported to have bine done att his tomb, hee was canonized St & hadd a Costly Shrine bestowed upon him Godw: in vita episc

Whoesoe desireth to reade of the diverse miracles reported to be donne by him shall finde them & many things more concerning him in Beda his eccl'e all history lib. 3. hee died in the Eight and thirty yeere of his age in the yeere of our Lord God 642, upon the 5th day of August upon wch day his festivity was wonte to be celebrated yeerely in the towne and parish of Oswestry called by us the Wakes or our Wake-day.

Above 800 yeeres since in comendacon of this good King Saint Oswald was made thus

Quis fuit Alcides? quis Cæsar Julius? aut quis Magnus Alexander? Alcides se superasse fertur, Alexander mundu' sed Julius hostem Se Simul Oswaldus quoque mundu' vicit et hostem

[Who was Alcides? Alexander who?
Or Julius Cæsar? Let the first subdue Himself, the next the world, the last the foe,
Oswald subdued himself the world, the foe.]

After the death of Kinge Oswald the ould British name of Tre'r r ffesen & Tre-Koderi & the ould Saxon name of Maserfield were obsoleted & discontinued & the Welsh name Croes-Oswalt & the English formed by Oswaldestre and nowe Oswestry were used & have soe continued in use p'miscuously for about a thousand yeeres yet not without interposicon of twoe other names (for some times and ages) as namely Albu' Monasteriu' & Trefred This last continued but for a while only duringe the space that Meredith ap Blethin prince of Powis was Lord of the Towne & of the Countrey adiacent thereunto Then indeed S' Jo: Price (as some write) the people for the most part belike in hono'r of their Lord and Prince called it Trefred that is to say Meredith's toune & the hundred thereof including Chirk and Groisfain & the severall Comotts thereunto app'tayning they called Cantre-Trefred that is to say the hundred of Meredith's toune But when prince Meredith died this name of Trefred died alsoe, & was quite extinguished wth him, but for the other name of Albu' Monasteriu' it was longer lived for this place where K. Oswald was cruellie (& as some say traeterously) slaine became very famous & remarkable for many miracles heere donne as Beda and others reporte. It begane wth Religion and Godlinesse & was much frequented by

such as came for devoc'on The Christians of that age held it to be a most holy place, Sanctissimu' locu' habueru't ejus p'tatis? Christiani prima origine Ex Religione habuisse videtur (saieth Mr Camden) upon good ground noe doubt: for shortly after in hono'r of S' Oswald, to continue his memory heere, they built a Monasterie w'ch is now the large and faire church heere extant and dedicated to S' Oswald and called it in Welshe Y fenachlog Wen (y'z the White Abbey, in Latin Albu' Monasteriu' S'ti Oswaldi; & the Normans afterwards accordingle blanch monasterie (contractim') blankmonster, the faire or white monasterie, soe tearmed of the color wherewith the out-side was lymed or plastered all over wherby it app'ed white afarr of to the be-houlders.

Soe that the towne itself in processe of time was often called (by reason of the Monasterie built in the South East end thereof) Albu' Monasteriu' fol 309
fol 91 as Mat. Paris & Mat. Westm call it & some ould Charters & Court-rolles & diverse In-quisitionis w'th one consent prove the same

I will instance in a few insteeds of many.

In a charter sanz date from Willia' the sonne of Willia' fitzalan, it is saide "Recepi in manu et p-tec'one mea Burgenses meas de Blancmonster etc

[I receive in my hand and protection my Burgesses of Blancminster (Oswestry). etc.]

Ricus de camera fuit constabularius Albi Monasteriu' ut app'et per quanda' ch'ra sanz date

[Richard de Camera was once Constable of Albi Monasterium (Oswestry) as appears by various Charters without date.] (1)

Ad curia Albi Monasterii tent' die Mer-
1 Edw. II. curii prox post festu Sci Bartholomei Ano
primo Edw. filii Edw. Rege.

[At the Court of Albi Monasterium (Oswestry) held on Wednesday next after the feast of St. Bartholomew (2) in the first year of Edward son of Edward the King.]

Thomas de Rossall tenet Rossall de Joh'ne fitzala' Comite Arundell in capite per servic' unius feodi Militis ad Albu' Monasteriu'.

[Thomas de Rossall holds Rossall of John Fitzalan Count Arundel in capite by the service of one Knight's Fee at Albu Monasterium (Oswestry).]

Rogerus Extraneus tenet hampton cu' membris de Joh'ne fitzalan Com: Arundell p' servic' unius feodi Militis ad Albu' Monasteriu' per 15 dies tempore Guerræ et similiter multi alii tenet ad Albu' Monasteriu' etc.

[Roger the Stranger holds Hampton with its members of John Fitzalan Count Arundel by the service of one Knight's Fee at Albu Monasterium (Oswestry) for 15 days during the time of war and similarly held many others at Albu Monasterium (Oswestry).]

Reynerus being buishop of S'. Asaphe in
fol 546 the Reigne of H. Second hadd a house (I use the word of Godwin Landavens) att or neere unto Oswestry of ould called Oswaldestre, where hee much resided he bestowed all the tyeth hay and Corne of Blanc-monastrie & the Chappells thereunto

(1) Richard de Camera was one of the jurors at an inquest taken at Oswestry on May 18, 1302, after the death of Richard Earl of Arundel.

(2) The Feast day of this Saint was held by the Greek Church on June 11, by the Roman August 25, by the Latin August 24

belonging, wherewith were wont to be maintayned twelve secular priests that for the most part hadd their lawfull wives, upon the monkes of Shrewsbury and by the Pope's authority expelled the said seculars. Thus farr Buishop Godwin In vit: episc:

I have a note taken out of some anonimus author or ould record (I knowe not whether) in these words followinge Reynerus Episcopus Asaphensis monasteriu' Oswaldi eccl'iam parocialem S'cti Oswaldi fecit suppressa antiqua illa mercioru' eccl'ia quæ Llanvorda (id est) Phanu' (?) vel eccl'ia ordo-vicoru' brit'te vocabatur, uno circiter milliari ab Oswestria distante By which it appe'th that the said Reynerus converted Blanc monastrie to be the parish church of Oswestry and suppressed the ould Church of the Mercians by the Brittaines called Llanvorda (that is) the temple or church of the Ordovices which was distant about a mile from Oswestry.

But when the foundation of blanc-monastrie was laied and when finished I cannot finde, it may be thought that w'th the revenues of it the Records alsoe were carried to Shrewsbury ells esloyned and canot be founde.

It is true that the Kingdome of Mercia containyd sixteene Counties whereof all Shropshire (as it is now bounded & extended) was one, but all Shropshire (as it is now) did not belong to the Cornavii, but only Cissabrina regio transabrina vero ordo-vicoru' fuit. That p'te of Shropshire which reacheth from

Seaverne to Dee belonged to the Ordovices, & therefore the ould p'ishe church was called Llanvorda that is to say the Church of the Ordovices, & was noe shier ground (as wee tearme it) for by the Statutes of 27 & 38 Hen. 8 Oswestry, Abertanat, Whittington, Masbrooke, Knockin, w'th their members were an'xed to the county of Salop & to be taken the hundred of Oswestry and are guildable.

And thus brieflie (accordinge to the scantnesse of tyme & healpes) have I rendered the Antient and Moderne names of Oswestry.

Here followe

certaine observacons of things & places remarkable in and neere the same.

Not a quarter of a mile distant from the Church of Oswestry there is a Well called in Welshe ffyn'on Oswallt: that is Oswald's Well—there was a chapell built over it called Capel Oswallt w'ch being ruinous was lately (in my memory) taken down & demolished,

H. Lloyd. of this well one writeth thus, per Oswaldia est clarissimus et p'spicuus ille fons, qui dictur Wallice ffynnon Oswallt Lux et Candela ipsa omniu' fontiu' p'spicuitate, nulliqs Candore secundus

The lands belonging to Oswalde Chapell beinge of good value (& paying noe tyethes att this day) were given by Reynerus buishop of S'. Asaph autoritate Papali to the Monks of Shreusbury as afores'.

Diverse other little chapells (whereof the names and ruines of some yett remayning) were antiently belonging to blanc monastr' but because I cannot say anythinge certayne, I will saye nothinge att all of them onely this I finde in Rotul: 42 Edw. 3, Hospitiu' nuper monachoru'

Albi Monasterii cu' o'ibus p'tinensis esse seisitu in manus; D'ni Regis.

[Only this I find in the 42 Roll of Edw. III. that the Hospitium formerly of the Monks of the White Monastery, with all its belongings, to be in the hands of our Lord the King. (Seisitu? with the site itself.).]

Some Welsh manuscripts call it llys Ogran or Caer-ogran, this Ogran was father of Gwenhwyfar 2nd wief to K Arthur & buried w'th him att Glas-tonbury.

About a quarter of a mile on the other side of Oswestry, there is a place called in English the ould porte in Welshe yr hên dinas of which I subscribe to Mr Camden's relation, his words are Sub-hac ad circiu' collis est' triplici fossa circū'datus, quem Hên dinas id est rectus palatiū vocant, urbem fuisse contendunt vicini, alii tamen sunt qui Penda Vel Oswaldi Castra existimā't.

(1) Ergo Oswald was slain there & not in Northumberland [Below it to the North West is an hill triple trenched called *Hen Dinas* q.d. the *old palace* said by the neighbours to have been a city though others think it was a camp of Penda or Oswald. (1)—Gibson's Camden, Vol. II., p. 400.]

About twee miles of Oswestry w'thin the p'rish there is a poole called Llynclis of w'ch poole Humfrey Lloyd reporteth thus. German Altisio donensis

preched sometime there against the Pelagian heresie. The Kinge whereof as it is there read because he refused to hear that good man by the secrett and terrible iudgment of god with his palace and all his houshold was swallowed up into the boweles of the earth Quo in loco now procul ab Oswaldia est stagnū incognitæ p'funditatis Llynclis id est vorago palatii in hunc diem dictu. In that place

whereas not farr from Oswestry is now a standinge water of an unknowne depth called Llynclis that is the devouring of the pallace.

Maddock ap Meredith prince of lower Powis did build the Castle of Oswestrie of him called Twr Maddock ano D'ni 1149 about the 4th yeere of the Raigne of Kinge Stephen of England Owen Guyneth beinge the prince of North Wales Madocus (ut est apud Caradocu' Lancarv' hee writt from Cadwaleder till the begining of H 2) Instauravit ffitzalan Norman postea eiusdem d'm et Arundellii Comites circū vallarunt—[Fitzalan the Norman repaired and afterwards the same Lord and the Count of Arundel surrounded it with a rampart]—[saieth Camden, speaking of Oswestry] but which of the Fitzalan's walled it, or who built the fower gates thereof I cannot certainly sett downe, onely I finde that Oswestry was walled round about in Ed: the first his time & that the gate called newe-gate was built in Ed. the 2nd's time.

Curia Albij monasterii tenta die m'curij proxime post festu St. Bartholomei. An'o primo Ed'ri Regis.

[The Court of Albi Monasterium (Oswestry) held on Wednesday next after the Feast of St. Bartholomew, in the first of Edward the King.]

Ex Rotulis curice. In rotuli eiusdem curie apparet et finalis Concordia fasta Johanni Meylir testatur quod

muris quo cingitur villa de Oswald erat factus anno sexto Edwardi II. nova porta qua indigene "Y Porth Newith" vocant edificata fuit Vel (ut opinor) re edificata fuit ut patet per rotuli.

[From the Court Rolls. In the rolls of the same Court appears a final agreement. John Meylir testified that the wall which surrounds the town of Oswald was made in the 6th of Edw: II. The New Gate which the natives call "Y Porth Newith" was erected or was, as I opine, re-erected, as is clear by the Rolls.]

Some saye that the Easte=gate called Beatrice gate was built in H the 2ds. by Beatrix or Betrad a greate Lady, daughter of Simon Earl of Mountford et Eureux in Normandy wief of Hugh Kivelioig the 5th Earl Palatine of Chester. This Lady travailing that way fell there in Labor & was delieu'd of a sonne named Randolph Earle of Chester & Lincolne whoe was surnamed Blandeivill because hee was borne in Powis in a Town called Albu' Monateriu'. But others say that gate was built by another greate Lady named Beatrice daughter of King John of Portingale & married to Thomas Earle of Arundell & Surrey 1405 in the p'sence of Hen, the 4th Kinge of England.

Wee read that Kinge Hen: the second in his voyage to Berwin or Snowdon hilles against the Welshe lay at Oswestry, & a greate number of his men beinge sent from there to trie the passage were slaine at Crogen (fowre miles of Oswestry as appe'th by their graves

Humff: there yett to be seen whereof the Strait Lloyd beareth the name of Adwyer Bedhev. And likewise that Kinge John his sonne 1212 w'th diverse of his nobles & a greate army w'th him entred into Wales att Blanc-Monaster nowe Oswestry whereof John the sonne of William Fitzalan was Lord) and that the same

Kinge John about 1215 in the last yeer of his Reigne (att what time Lewis son'e of the french Kinge beinge called by the Barons came in to England and received their homage at London) fledd to Hereford &

desired ayde of Prince Lhwelyn his sonne in Lawe w'ch was denied. Therefore King John destroid twee Castles & came alonge to Oswestry (w'ch towne beinge of the poss'ions of John ffitzalan) hee burned to the ground. And likewise we finde that the same Lhwelyn Prince of North Wales (whom Mathew Paris called Leolinus magnus) returninge from the seige of Brecknock 1233, about 17 Hen. 3, burned the towne of Clun & recou'd all the cuntrye called Dyffryn Teveidiat (w'ch was of the poss'ion of John Fitzalan) but hee could not gett the Castle. Afterward, that he overthrew the Redd Castle in Powis and burned the towne of Oswestry.

Moreou' wee finde Recorded; in Curia parva tent: in villa D'oster xxiiij' die Aprilis An'o R R Hen. 4, 2 these words Irrotulatur Sir Doming' Comes de gracia sua speciali at releviacone et melioratione villæ suæ D'oster p. die p inimicos combustæ et distructæ, And in another place of the same ch're p *Wallicos. combustæ et destructæ* And further in the same Ch're Quod cu' ho'es nr'i Wallenses de dn'o nr'o hundredi de Oswaldestre qui tenura terraru' suaru' ibm ex antiquo habuerunt et habere debent custodia quatuor portaru' villæ nr'æ p' diece cu' c'to numere hominu'

Wallico nam (?) vocatoru' *Kayes* iamdudu p ditorice insurrexerunt contra rebelles, et de vi et auxilio extiterunt cu' alijs Wallensis p' ditoribz ad deceptive capiend' *spoliam' et incendend' villa nr'am p'd.*

[In the little Court held in the Town of Oswestry the 23rd day of April in the second year of the reign of King Henry the fourth these words on the Rolls, The Lord Count by his own special grace both by relief and amelioration of his town of Oswestry as aforesaid burnt and destroyed by the enemy and in another place of The same Charter—burnt and destroyed by the Welshmen and further in the same Charter—Because when our Welshmen of our jurisdiction of the hundred of Oswestry who through the tenure of their same lands from Antiquity held and should hold in custody 4 of the gates of our town aforesaid with a number of Welshmen formerly rose up against us as Rebels at the instigation of a man named *Kayes* (?) and by force and aid held on with other Welsh robbers and treacherously burnt as booty our aforesaid town.]

See that it app'eth by this Ch're of Thomas Earle of Arundell graunted to the English Burgesses of the towne of Oswestry & inrowled there by the special Com'aund of ye Earle as app'eth by the same Ch're that the towne was not longe before burnt destroyed & spoiled by Welshe Rebels and enemies whome afterwards the Earle p'doned as app'eth by his p'don dated att Shrawerden Castle the xxxth day of August the 7th yeere of the Raigne of Kinge Hen. 4th.

This burninge & spoylinge of the towne of Oswestry was in the first yeere of the sd. K Hen 4th as appe'th by the Court-roll of that yeare in these words—Oswestria pene tota conflagrata fuit occasione belli populi Wallensis.

[Oswestry was nearly totally destroyed by fire during the War of the Welsh people.]

And this was when Owen Glendour rebelled as app'eth by an Inquisition taken the same yeere before John Whetales then Steward of Oswestry The copy of w'ch Inquisition I have seen & (as I remember) the burninge of Oswestry & some other townes was found & specified in the same Inquisition amongst other Treasons com'itted by ye sd. Owen whereof hee was indited and found guilty by a very sufficient Jury etc.

Sithence Owen Glendour's Rebellion I doe not finde that the towne was any more burnt or destroyed by enemies or violent assault, but I finde that it was burned by a great misfortune of fire casually happeninge thrice in thirty yeares. Twoe longe streets w'ch greate riches of that towne were burnt An'o D'ni 1542. And likewise or worse in An'o 1544 and lastly in 1567 200 houses (v'z) seaven score w'thin the walles & three score without in the suburbs besides cloath, corne, cattle etc were consumed by fire, w'ch fire began att 2 of the clock in the morning and ended att foure to the great marveiling of many that soe greate a spoile in soe short a time should happen Att the first and last of these three fires the sunne was Eclipsed in Aries (as saith Mr Camden) who stiles Oswestry urbs or urberula fossa et muro inclusa exiguoq Castello, munita, mercato vero foelix et nobile emporiu' as Hu : Lloid calles it pan'oru' p'sertim Wallicoru' quoru' magna vis singulis septimanis hic distrahitur, it flourished & was happy indeede (as hee saith truelie) by reason of the M'kett of Welsh Cottons (as they call them) whereof great store was bought and sould in the towne every weeke And as I

was credibly informed by many that knewe it, above a 1000li sterlinge in ready money was paid and left in the towne every Monday through the yeare, and sometimes farr more upon special faires or occa'ns for that one com'odity.

But nowe since the Staple thereof is removed from Oswestry and the M'kett of Welsh Cloath made free for all places and p'sons the towne of Oswestrie is much decayed and impoverished, and whether our neighbour towne of Shrewsbury (having nowe engrossed the said Market) be any way bettered, I cannot say, but this I say

Virgil Eclog 9 Mantua vœ misere nimin' vicina Cremonæ ["O! unhappy Mantua too near Cremona," meaning, of course, that Oswestry was too near Shrewsbury.]

Of the BARONIE and Hono'r of Oswestrie and the Barons thereof since the conquest of England beinge nowe 569 yeares agoe.

Willia' the Conqueror came into England and was crowned kinge of the land An'o D'm 1066 Blethyn ap Convyn beinge then prince of Powis (some write of all Wales) Oswestry was p'te and p'cell of the principalltie of Powis and was then the poss'ions of Prince Blethyn whoe died in the 7th yeare of Willia' the Conqueror. After his decesse, his eldest sonne Meredith inherited Oswestry w'ch of him was then called Trefred, Meredith's towne, and was one of the Com'otts of Cantrefred — This Meredith stiled by Caradocus Lancar : the greatest Lord and chiefest man in Powis died An'o D'm 1132 about the 32nd yeare of King Hen. the first. After him succeeded his sonne Madoc ap Meredith, whoe built the Castle of Oswestry (as Isaide before) 1149. 4to R.R. Steph : and died at Winchester An'o D'm 1160, aboute the sixth yeere of K Hen 2nd This man was ever the King of England's friend one that feared God & relieved the poore, his body was ho'bly conveyed to Powis & buried att Mivott. All Powis was devided betweene this Madoc & his brother Gruffith : Gruffith hadd that p'te of Powis for his share called afterwards Powis Wenwynwyn, & after his death his sonne Owen Cyveilioc enjoyed. Madoc (of whom we speake) hadd that p'te w'ch after his name was called Powis Vadoc w'ch p'te againe was devided betweene his three sonnes Griffith Maylor, Owen Vaughan, and Owen Broginton after this manner. Griffith Maylor hadd Bromfeild Yale, hope-Dale, Nanheudwy Mochant is Rhayard Chirck Cynlhayth Glynouerdwy Owen Vaughan hadd Mech-
(1) in curteze
causa patet
quia filiz
naturalis.
ain Iscoyd & (1) Owen Broginton had Dynmael & Edeyrnion.

Wee doe not finde that any of this Madoc his sones had Oswestry (his chiefest Barony the place of his most abode) and where the father hadd built his Castle or towne as aforesaid. Therefore the quere is, what become of Oswestry. Caradoc Lancar. makes noe men'con of it neither Mr. Humfrey Lloyd, nor Hystor: Wall: Doctor Powell in the Division of Powis fol 211.

We finde there men'con of his wief Susana daughter of Conan prince of North Wales, of his sonnes afore-named, & of his children, & of the division of Powis

as afforesaid : But of Oswestry a chief and eminent p'te of Powis, altu silentiu', there is noe tidings of it.

Certaine it is that not longe after the death of this Madoc, & in the Raigne of Kinge Hen. the Seconde Wm. fitzalan Lord Baron of Clun & a Lord Marcher was in actuall poss'ion of Oswestry, whether by donac'on from the Kinge of England, or by conquest, or by what other title or right I cannot determine.

The Lord M'chers (question lesse) made divers Incur-sions against the Welshe & Powis Vadoc. Powisie nomen p'didit nam à Norma'nis devicta in victoru' jus abiit (Saieth Hum : Lloyd). It lost the name of Powis, for beinge subdued by the Normans it came into the power & right of the conqueror. But by constant tradicon concerninge the transacon [translation ?] of Oswestry att first to this fitzalan We receive, and soe I have scene it in an antient welse manuscript thus. Madoc ap Meredith prince of Lower Powis tooke to his

second wief Malt Verdon that is Matilda fromye Lord Or Mawd Verdon an englishe woman of Verdon are descended ye noble parentage and the Baronie & manor of earles of Oswestry w'th the members thereof. This, Shreusburie Madoc passed in Joynture upon the said and Essex. Mawd, & to the heirs of ther bodies.

Maud Verdon upon some discontentmt. dep'ted from her husband, & betook herself to the Court of England. The Kinge took her p'te & Madoc upon the King's com'and and was convented to Winchester, where hee & his wief Maud were reintegrated & for attonement & expiacon of all form'r injuries hee conveyed and estated the Seignioury of Oswestry upon her & her yssue gen'all. And shortly after Madoc died at Winchester as is before menc'on'd. After his death shee was secondly married to Willia' fitzalan Lord of Clun the first of that antient & noble surname of the fitzalans whoe had & obtained the honor, Castle, towne, and seigniory of Oswestry w'th all the members thereof in the right of this Lady his wief and he resided at Oswestry.

Thus farr the sume of that tradic'on registered in the Welsh manuscript and nowe extant amonge the Re'brants of the Welsh Barde, whether this is true or not I cannot affirme. But that this Willia' fitzalan resided at Oswestry when Baldwin Archbushop of Canterbury An'o D'ni 1187 having in his company Giraldu Cambrensis A'chdeacon of Brecknock visited Wales, the same Giraldu testifieth in suo Itinerario lib 2 cap 12 in these words, Apud Oswestree (id est) Oswaldi arborem p' noctavimz a Gulielmo Alani filio Invene nobili et liberali ad importuna eius instanti'a Anglicanæ sumptus sitatis more splendide nimis et lante procurati etc.

[We slept at Oswaldstree or the tree of St. Oswaldi, and were most sumptuously entertained after the English manner by William Fitzalan a noble and liberal young man. (1)]

A neate commendacon of this younge nobleman and his entertainment.

This Willia' was the first of the fitzalans that was Lord and Baron of Oswestry, but the second of that surname beinge the sonne of Willia' the sonne of Alan whoe came in w'th the Conqueror.

What this Alan filius floaldi (as Mr. Camden tearmeth him) was in Normandie : I refer myself to the Records remayninge in Arundell House & in the Gen'all office of Arms in London. I am too farr to be furnished (att this time) w'th any of their store, what I have found in the ould Rowles taken out of the Ch'res belonginge to the Abbey of Shrewsbury I will heere willingly imp'te as followeth, Alanus fitz-flael nobilis vir Normanus Rogero de montegomerie comitem se p' buit et ejus vestigiis adherebat, qui post filu' warrini altius ad vice-comitis dignitatem conscendit et moriceus filiu' Willimi dignitatis et facultatu' heredem reliquit.

The words of King Stephen's ch're of Confirmac'on are as followeth (1) Alanus filius fladaldi qui honor'e vice-comitis warrini post filiu' ejus suscepit liberti animo concessit omnia quoe antecessores vel Barones sui dederunt ecclies Sci. Petri et in suo tempore vel ante, p'mpta devotione et ab oibz eid'm p'tinentibus (excepto Geldo Regis) Libera et quieta condonavit.

Hoc et Willim'g eius filius et he'res cora omni comitatu' concessit et proprio sigillo confirmavit.

[Alan Fitz Flael, a noble Norman, made him useful as a companion to Roger de Montgomery, and attached himself to him, who afterwards raised the son of Warin to the higher dignity of Sheriff (and afterwards left to Morrice the son of William the hereditary power.) The words of King Stephen's charter are as followeth : Alan the son of Fladaldi who assumed the honor of the Sheriff Warin, after his son yielded everything that his predecessors or the Barons gave to his church of St. Peter, and in his time, or before it, through . . . devotion released him from all his dues (excepting the King's Geld). This William and his son and heir before all the county conceded and by his proper seal confirmed.]

This Willing filius Alani was witness (amongst others) to King Hen: the second's ch'res graunted to the Abbey of Shrewsbury. In him began and from him continued that antient and noble surname of the fitzalans flowishinge in this Hollinshead great hono'r many hundred yeeres in this & alij Chro: kingdom hee it was that fortified the Castle accord: of Shrewsbury against King Stephen in the behalfe of Maud the Countesse.

Willing filius Alani filii fladaldi Salopiense Castra magno apparatu contra Stephani munivet qd rex expugnavit An'o Regni sui tertio (saieth Polidor).

[William son of Alan, son of Fladald, fortified the castle of Shrewsbury against Stephen, which the King captured in the third year of his reign.]

An'o D'ni 1138 saith the history of Lancarvan Willing post patrem Alanu' Salopiensis P'vincie moderamen habuit et totu fers agru' Salopiense occupavit.

[William, after his father Alan, governed the Province of Salop, and he held nearly the whole of the land of Salop.]

This must be understood after the profligacon and banishment of Robert son'e of Roger de Mountgomery Tempore (Earle of Arundell & Shrewsbury) et qua H I plurima maneriasuis Baronibus militibus et fidelibus concessit ut Constat in Rotulis antiquis.

[And many of these Manors he conceded to his faithful Barons and Knights as appears in the ancient Rolls.]

I have scene an abstract of those ould Rowles. And I have transcribed a Coppie of the Earle of Arundell's

(1) Sir R. Colt Hoare's Translation of the Itinerary, Bohn's Ed. p 463.

(1) Blakeway, in his *Sheriffs of Shropshire*, doubts this.

Knights' fees in Shropshire (as they are tearmed) whereby it plainly appe's those words out of the Rowles to be true (vz) 'Totu fere agru' Salopiense occupavit. Allmost all the whole county of Salop was the possessions of the ffitzalans and most of all the Castles, Abbeyes, Religeous hous's mano'rs seigniories & Lands in Shropshire were and are nowe houlden of them, as is manifest by sundry antient offices found formed by & by Inquisitions yeerley taken after the decesse of the owners thereof respectively.

This Willia ffitzalan had his Barones et miletes as appe'th by the Rowles & unto them hee gave sparsim (1) over all the Shire Diu'se mano'rs & Lande to houlden of him, hee created Tenures, hee built Clun Castle (some say Alan his father begune it) & he was Lord Baron thereof, and alsoe a Lord Marcher and soe his descendants continued Lord M'chers here, until the 27th yeere of K Hen y'e eight when all ye Lords Marchers in England were extinguished & their Royall authoritie subverted.

In their territories upon the M'ches of Wales & in Clun-land & in the hundred of Oswestry (then noe p'te of Shropshire but since an'xed thereunto.) The ffitalans hadd Jura Regalia, Royall Seigniories, & Royall Jurisdiction.

Royall Seigniories in all points of service and Escheats as the Kinge hadd. And in most points royall Jurisdic'on & the priveleges of Earles Palatine for they had their owne officers and Courts of Justice where the King's writtes & officers hadd no authority, but in matters of treason onely: Otherwise all murders felonies ac'ons reall and p'sonall and all other ac'ons whatsoever were heard & determined in their Courts. They hadd their private lawes, they graunted p'dons even of murder, & of all kinde of felonies they graunted priveleges, they Infranchised & incorporated their Towns. They hadd Constables of their castles They hadd their Exchequers, their Treasurers, Receavers and

To prove most of these particulars see the Charters following.

Auditors

* 3 E. 4 Gray
Lord Powis
senel ibm
7 E. 4 Tho.

Lord Mau-
travers. 15
E. 4 John
Dudley. 16
E. 4 W Arun-
del Miles,
Lord Mau-
travers.

1 Hen' 7 S'r
W. Stanley
(afterwards
Lord Cham-
berlayne)
& 18 Hen' 7
S'r Gilbert
Talbot were
Senescalls
here as

apth by the
Court Rolls
ib'm.

They hadd *Custodes portaru*, keep's of their gates in their walled townes They had sometimes **noble men* and att all other times eminent Knights & Esquiers of the best quality to be their Stewards They signed & putt their names before & above their Ch'res & graunts They hadd their greate seales. Their stiles ranne in the plural number "Nos et de gra'n'ra speciali" Their Seigniores were named & stiled hono'rs in w'ch they were great p'inces much like as if they had bine Kings

Solo Diademata Dispar.
[The Crown alone excepted.]

1) Sparsim=here and there.

Twelve of the ffitzalan's (descended from this Willia' ffitzalan) were Earles of Arundell & three of them were alsoe Earles of Arundell & Surrey

fifteene of the ffitzalans were Lords of Oswestrie havinge w'th all other dignities & greate plac's sixtene of them (includinge Alan), were lords of Clun and all of them were Lords M'chers.

The second Willia' ffitzalan being Lord of Oswestry in the right of his wief Maud Verdon, graunted a Ch're (w'ch is the antientest Ch're nowe extant) to the Bur-
gesses of Oswestry. Will de Verdon (inter alios) happily some kinsman of his wief, is witnessse to it.

This Ch're beareth no date and is called *Charter gutta*, id est Charta brevis, p'te of the Labell is to it but the seale taken from it S'r Willia Neve hath a Coppie of this Ch're I have translated it as I reade & understood it; happily I may be somewhere mistaken as unacquainted w'th that ould hand & character.

The second Ch're w'ch I finde (& have translated) is from Edmund ffitzalan Earle of Arundell, dated at Oswestry die S'ci Michaelis in the 18th yeere of King Edd. the Second S'r Willia' Neve hath a coppie of this Ch're

Afterwards I finde noe other Ch'res graunted by any of the Earles of Arundell unto the Towne of Oswestry untill Kinge Hen. the fourth his time

But there is a faire Ch're extant from King Richard the 2d bearing date att. Westm. the 14th daie of August in the 22nd yeere of his Raigne. This Ch're of Kinge Rich. the 2d beinge nowe w'thout any seale unto it, I have transcrib'd And the grauntinge of this Ch're happened upon this sinister occasion

Richard Earle of Arundell (a noble patriott, of an heroicke spirit of greate power & comaunde beinge of the Royall blood) ioyninge with the Duke of Glocester the king's unckle and others for the kinge ho'ble weale, & publiq good of the Kingdome, was nev'thelesse through subornation of some upstart favorites of the Kinge & his flatterers (p'fessed enimees to the men of antient nobility) by the king's p'curement condemned to death in the p'liament held the xxist yeere of that Kings Raigne, where the Prelatts dep'ted the house because they would not be p'sent att the Judgm't of blood.

And there it was ordained that the County Stat : 27 of Oswester should be a principalitie soe Ric : 2 the Kinge for his affec'on thereunto would have it. And for the encrease of the hono'r and state of princes w'ch should be there & for the ease and tranquility of the people of the said principalitie & of the counties of flint and Shropshire & of the Seigniouries w'ch be ioyninge to the same.

The Castle of Lyons (nowe called Hoult) w'th the Seigniouries of Bromfield and Yale to the said Castle belonginge. The Castle of Oswaldtree w'th the Town well walled w'th stone, & the hundred & the Eleven Townes to the said Castle belonginge. The Castle of Isabell w'th the Seigniourie of the same belonginge to the Castle of Dallilay w'th th' app'tenances in the County of Shropshire & the rever'con of the Seigniourie of Cleve w'th all their app'tenances w'ch Edward Earle of Rutland houldeth for tearme of his life.

All w'ch Townes Castles & Seigniories affores'd were to Richard Late Earle of Arundell & w'ch by force of Judgment against the said Earle in the said p'liament

he forsaite to our Sov'aigne Lord the Kinge, w'ch shal be from henceforth an'xed united & incorporat to the said principality of Osester, & shall wholly abide & Remaine to the said principality as p'cell & member of the same for ever. See that the said resiants Landtenants & all the Inhabitants of the said Castles Seigniories & Townes shall have use and enjoy all their antient Lawes Rights & Customes there of ould time reasonable hadd & used.

Upon this proviso in the said Statute the Inhabitants of Oswestry sued to Kinge Richard for this Ch'e & obtained it at his beinge att Oswestry as some say when hee went for Ireland (for his beinge att Oswestry we have onely a bare tradicon) but the Ch're beares date at Westm'r.

This Richard Earle of Arundell after his death (as affores'd was reputed a martire and pilgrimage was daily made to his Tomb w'ch Kinge Richard caused to be demolished. And it was constantly reported (saith my author) that the Kinge was much disquieted in his dreames w'ch the said Earle, whoe did often seeme to appeare unto him in soe terrible and truculent a maner that breakinge his fearful sleepe the Kinge would curse the tyme that ever hee knewe him.

The crie of this Earle's in'ocent blood soe caussfully shedd did call for vengeance & a curse upon the King w'ch fell incontinently after upon him by the losse of his kingdome, & after, of his life; for Kinge Richard was first deposed & then afterwards murdered. Duke Henry havinge attained the Crowne by deposicon of Kinge Richard called a Parliament in w'ch was inquired howe the Duke of Glosester was putt to death by the Late King's com'aundm't. And conc'ninge Richard Earle of Arundell & others w'ch Joynd w'th the s'd Duke & for their restitution & theire heires it was enacted & ordained att a Parliam't houlden att Westm'r in the first yeere of the Raigne of the s'd Henry (then Kinge by the name of Henry the fourth) as followeth:—

Whereas a Parliam't was houlden the one Stat. 1. H. 4 & twentieth yeere of the Raigne of the said cap. 8. Late Kinge Richard att Westm'r and from thence adjoyned to Salop, att w'ch towne a

certaine power was co'mitted by authority of the Parliam't to c'taine p'sons to proceed upon certaine Articleles & matters comprised in the Roll of the P'liam't thereof made, as by the same Roll may appe' in w'ch Parliam't & alsoe by authority afforesaid diverse statutes Judgm'ts Ordinance's and Stablisments were made ordayned & given er'ioniously and dolefullie in great disherison & finall destruc'on & undoinge of many ho'ble Lords & other leige people of the Realme, & of their heires for ever—Our Sov'aigne Lord the Kinge consideringe the greates iniustices afforesaid by the said advise & assent of all the Lords Spirituall and Temp'all and of all the comm'altie hath iudged the said p'liament houlden the said 21st yeere & the authority thereof given (as afforesaid) w'th all the circ'stances & dependants thereupon to be of noe force nor valo'r And that the same p'liament w'th the authority affores'd & all the circumstanc's and dependents thereupon be wholly reversed, revoked voided undone repealed and adnulled for ever.

Item—it is accorded assented & established that the p'liament houlden the 21st yeere of the said late Kinge Richard be firmly houlden & kept after the purport and effects of the same, as a thinge made for the greates hono'r & comon profit of this Realme.

Item it is ordained and assented that the Lords & others w'ch were foriudged in the said p'liament houlden the said 21st yeere or by authority of the same w'ch nowe be in life, & the heires of the Lords & other that be dead shall be wholly restitute & restored to their names all maner inheritments & possessions rev'ercons fees avousons offices liberties or franchises as entirely as the said Lords & other w'ch be in life or the Lords & others w'ch be deade ancestors of the heires or the feoffees of the said Lords or other afforesaid or other feoffes to their use were att the time of the iudgment given against them to be made or livery to be hadd of the same, savinge allwaies that the s'd Lords or other afforesaid shall have nothinge of the yssues taken in the meantyme. And as to the goods and Cattells w'ch were to the said Lords or other p'sons affores'd soe foriudged whereof the kinge is not answered, & be in the hands of the Shiriffs eschetoures or other officers ministers or any other & concealed by them. The Kinge will and graunteth that the same Lorde & other w'ch nowe be in life and the executo'rs & administrato'rs of them that be deade shall have thereof deliv'y & restituc'on. And that the Shiriffes Eschetoures Officers & ministers soe occupyinge the said goods & Cattells by such concealment be punished for the same concealment.

By vertue of these Statutes of 1 Hen. 4 (the words) whereof I have used as irrefutable Records shewinge howe undeservedly & wrongfullie the said Richard Earle of Arundell was condemned & putt to death, his sonne & heire Thomas ffitzalan was restored to the Earldomes of Arundell and Surrey, to all his father's hono'rs dignities, Seigniories, Lands, goods, and poss'ions and consequently to Oswestry w'ch hee resealed (as appe'th by the ould Court-Rowles) & soe disioynted it from the late erected principalitie of Osester.

Earle Thomas beinge thus remitted to Oswestry, some of the towns-men there & others of the neighbour-hood then Rebellinge w'th Owen Glendowr were convicted and ended att Oswestry before his Steward. And in the yeere followinge this Thomas Earle of Arundell granted a charter of lib'ties unto the Englishe Burges's of the towne of Oswestry bearinge date at London the 11th of february in the 2d yeere of Kinge Henr. the 4th. And the same Ch're com'aunded to be p'claymed att Oswestry, Chirck, Kynerley, Melverley, Rytton (containinge the Eleven Townes), Shrawerdon, Bromfield and Yale. And in all other opportune plac's of the said Lo'pps. And this ch're was inrolled att Oswestry; The coppie of w'ch Inrollment there nowe remayninge I have transcribed verbatim.

Afterwards the said Thomas Earle of Arundell and Surrey p'cured a pardon from Kinge Hen. the 4th. to all his tenants in Wales & the M'ches thereof whoe hadd rebelled against the said Kinge (it seemes in the insurrec'on of Owen Glendowr).

This pardon beares date att Westmr. 1^o Julii 6^o Hen. 4^{to}.

And the said Earle graunted unto them a gen'all p'don from himselfe w'ch p'don is in ffrench beares date att Shrawerdon Castle 30mo. Augusti 7 Hen. 4. The coppies of both these p'dons (as I found them coppied, for the originalles are not heere extant) I have transcribed. Like wise I have transcribed a Release graunted from the s'd, Earle unto the Burgesses or Com'nalty & his Tennants of Oswestrie of certaine debts due to the said Earle from them dated att Oswestry 25th die Januarii in the 8th yeere of K Hen the 4th.

Alsoe the said Thomas Earle of Arundell & Surrey graunted unto the Burgesses of Oswesry gen'ally both Welse and Englishe a large Charter containing diverse privileges lib'ties & immunities bearinge date att Oswestry the same day and yeere last recited (vz.) 25th die Januarii 8 Hen 4th. This Ch're is extant & hath a Labell unto it w'th the greate Seale of Armes of the said Earle depicted on the one side & a horse on the other side w'thin the Garter (?) but the Waxe is nowe debrused. And alsoe there is a very faire counter-p'te of the said Ch're written in an oulde hand w'thout any seale to it.

The Coppie of this Ch're I have transcribed & you shall finde it verbatim recited in an Insepimus w'ch I examined w'th the originall & to avoide twice writinge of it I refer to the Ch're of Insepimus. This Thomas Earle of Arundell obtained greate hono'rs and was very famous for his martiall prowesse & valiant attchievements beyond the seas, where he was slaine in the warrs.

There is another Ch're from Willia' Earle of Arundell to the Drap's, M'cers & Ironmongers & grocers of Oswestry and sealed with his greate seale of Armes dated att London the 15th of November 16 . H. 6.

The coppie of soe much of this Ch're as I could obtaine I have transcribed. Sir Willia' Neve hath the Coppie of the whole Ch're att large.

It app'e'th that there was an Insepimus of the Ch're of Thomas Earle of Arundell dated 25^o Januarii 8 Hen. 4 graunted by John Earle of Arundell dated in his house att London the 23rd of April 8 Hen. 6^o.

Likewise there is another Insepimus of the form'r & Later from Will'm Earle of Arundell dated att Oswestry the 25th of October 19 Hen. 6 And another Insepimus of the last Thomas Earle of Arundell his sonne dated att London the 26^o of february In the 12th yeere of Kinge Hen: the 7th.

These three last recited Ch'res of Insepimus are lost. (for I cannot heare nor learne where to finde them.)

I have seene about a dozen yeeres agoe three faire Ch'res of the Earle of Arundell twoe of them (as I remember in ffrench) in the Custody of a gent. nowe deceased. I have inquired after them and sought to borrowe them of his sonne but fayled.

There is another Insepimus of all the other Ch'res since that of Thomas Earle of Arundell 8. H. 4th from Willia Earle of Arundell dated at Downley 20th October 17th H. 8. This last extant w'ch is the last from any of the fitzalsans I have transcribed att large.

In this Earle of Arundell his tyme Jura regalia were abrogated 27^o Hen. 8. Notwithstandinge the Lorde

Marchers in Wales hadd divers greate and princely priveledges and liberties graunted unto them by Acte of Parliament 1 P. & M. Cap. 15 for the p'ticulars whereof I refer to the Statut.

But Henry Earle of Arundell sonne of the said Willia by a speciall graunte & donacon from Kinge Philipp & Queen Mary had greater & larger im'unities and priveleges given and graunted unto him his heires and assigns then is specified in the Law Statut. to the Lords M'chers gen'ally. Those whoe enioye his Right and estate in those seigniouries w'ch were his att that time doe likewise enioye and use the same Liberties att this tyme.

What the same Liberties be, howe many & of what sorte my Lord of Suffolks claim (as they call it) will p'ticular & demonstrate. I have seene an Abstracte of it, but I have it not, neither can I procure (at this time) howsoever I knowe those liberties to be (mutatis mutandis) the very same the Learned Lord H. Howard Earle of Northampton (nowe deceased) hadd in Clun land.

The Coppie of whose claime I have transcribed att large, what hee had there in Clun. The Right Ho'bl. Earle of Suffolk hath nowe the same heere in Oswestry.

This Henry Earle of Arundell (whose memory many in these parts doe hono'r in the dust) havinge twoe daughters the Lady Jane whoe died w'thout yssue, And the Lady Mary who was married to the illustrious & right noble Prince Thomas Duke of Norfolk did convey Oswestry unto the Duke (as it seems) for I finde the Court there kept in the Duks name.

Oswestr'
Villa
ff
Curia magna pranobilis Principis
Thomae Ducis Norfolk Comit
Mariscal' Anglie ib'm tent: nono
die Maii Anno Eliz 13^o Cora' etc.

[At the great Court of the Illustrious Prince Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Count Marshall of England, held there the 9th day of May in 13th year of Elizabeth, before, &c.]

(1) Visus franc pleg pre nobilis,
Principis Thome Ducis Norfolk
Comit Mariscal Anglie ibm' ten't
10 Octobris 13 Eliz: cora', etc.

[View of Frank Pledge, the illustrious Prince Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Count Marshall of England, held there the 10th of October, in 13th of Elizabeth, before, etc.]

And after that yeere, for sixe yeeres next followinge, the Courts were kept in the Queene's name as appe'th by the Court-Rolles of Anno 14., 15, 16, 17, 18, et. 19. Dne Regine Elizabethæ. And after in the 20th yeere of her Raigne I finde the Courts were kept againe in the name of Henry Earle of Arundell & soe continued duringe his life, I will quote one Courtroll for all the rest.

Visus franc pleg pre nobilis viri Henrici
Oswestr.
Vill. ff.
Comitis Arundelie p'nobilis ordinis Carterii
Militis unius a privati consilio Regine ibm.
Tent x' die Aprilis An'o 20 Elizab' Cora',
etc.

[View of Frank Pledge, of that illustrious man Henry Count Arundel, Knight of the most illustrious Order of the Garter, one of the Queen's Privy Council, held there the 10th day of April in the 20th year of Elizabeth, before, &c.]

(1) The office which a Sheriff or the Bailiff of a hundred exercised in his respective Court, hence the cognizance of such pleas as ordinarily came before the Greater or Lesser Hundred Courts, e.g. wayt, bloodshed hue and cry, assize of beer and bread.

And though the Mano'r of Oswestry w'th the members thereof were passed to the Duke (as may be gathered by the Court-Rolles) yett I doe not finde that the dignity & Baronie was transferred to the Duke at all, but the Earle retained it as long as hee lived.

Upon whose decease Nobilissime familie cognomen desiit que hoc honore annos 300 et amplius florueat sayeth the excellenge Mr Camden.

[Upon whose decease the name of this most noble family which had flourished for 300 years or more ceased.]

Indeede the ffitzallans flourished above 300 yeeres enioying the hono'rs of beinge Earles of Arundell & above 415 they enioyed the hono' of beinge Barons of Clun & Oswestrie. And though by the decease of this noble Earle Henry the surname of ffitzalan deceased alsoe, yett the dignity survivid and Arundell beinge transplanted into a princely stocke was thereby improved & made more for PHILLIP sonne and heire of the right noble and mighty Prince THOMAS DUKE OF NORFOLK & grandchild & heire general of the said Earle Henry was in his own right Earle of Arundell & Baron of Oswestrie; hee graunted unto the Bayliffes & Burgesses of that Borrough certaine liberties & Constitutions by his Charter bearinge date att Charter-house the 22th day of May 24to RR. Elizabeth w'ch afterwards were revoked repealed & made voide by a decree in the Starr-Chamber xxx^o die Novembris An'o RR Eliz xxx^o as appe'th by an exemplification of an order made before the Councell in the Marches of Wales Dated att Beawdley the xiith of June Anno ult p'dic w'ch Charter of Constitucions in the said M'ches I have transcribed.

And these & the Ch'res & graunts before specified are all to be founde nowe remayninge in the custodie of the Bayliffs of Oswestrie Except only one other Ch're from his Late mat'ie Kinge James, bearinge date in the 14th yeare of his Raigne of England. The coppie whereof I could not procure.

And now this antient Baronry of Oswestry w'ch primarily belonged unto the *Princis* of WALES, and hath since longe continued app'tayinge to the illustrious familie of the FRITZALANS is hereditarily descended unto the Right Ho'ble. and worthie heire thereof

THOMAS EARLE MARSHALL of England in whome not only the splendour of his noble & Princely progenito'rs doth visibly shine & their chiefest virtues actively flourish;

But alsoe the Earledomes of ARUNDELL & SURREY (for a time disioynted) are knitt again & reunited. And like wise this antient BARONY OF OSWESTRY is nowe annexed to his house; as greate a house as any subiect in Europe (not bearinge the surname of a kinge) can shewe or demonstrate. Ed.

Virtutis
laus
actio

By Act of
Parl. Anno
RR Caroli
etc Tertio.

QUERIES.

RICE JONES, LLANFAIR CAEREINION.—In Rowlands's *Llyfryddiaueth y Cymry, sub anno 1653*, Rice Jones, of Llanfair Caereinion, is stated to have published a metrical paraphrase of the New Testament. Can any of your readers give an account of this work or its author?
R. W.

REPLIES.

LLANMEREWIG (Oct. 27, 1886).—There is no such church named in Rees's Essay on the Welsh Saints, nor does any such name as "Merewig" appear in the Welsh Calendars, or Genealogies of the Saints of Wales. There is, therefore, no substantial basis in existence for this derivation, or form of the word. But "Llamyr Ewig" signifies "the Doe's Leap," and I have been assured by the late Rev. John Parker of Sweeney, who was at one time the incumbent, of his belief in this origin of the name. When was the church first founded? H. W. L.

CURRENT NOTES.

Lord Ormathwaite has consented to take the office of chairman of the Radnorshire Sessions, which the Rev R. L. Venables has resigned after thirty-five years' service.

Mr Jarrett Roberts (Pencerdd Eifion), R.A.M., musical instrument manufacturer and dealer, of Bangor and Carnarvon, died at the former town last week. The deceased was well known in Welsh musical and eisteddfodic circles as a composer of some note, his chief composition being a cantata "The Inundation of Cantre'r Gwaelod."

PROFESSOR MACCALLUM of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, has been appointed to the chair of modern literature in the University of Sydney, New South Wales. The salary is £900 and fees.

PRESENTATION TO MR SAMUEL HOLLAND.—On Monday the Lord-Lieutenant of Merionethshire, Captain Pryce, on behalf of the subscribers, presented Mr S. Holland, who was for many years M.P. for the county, with his portrait, painted in oils by Mr Hugh Carter.

The following Mayors were elected yesterday:—Oswestry, Mr. W. H. LACON; Welshpool, Mr. T. R. MORRIS; Llanidloes, Alderman W. THOMAS; Montgomery, Alderman FAIRLES HUMPHREYS; Llanfyllin, Alderman DUGDALE; Wrexham, Mr. J. PRICHARD; Shrewsbury, Alderman G. B. LLOYD; Denbigh, Mr. R. HUMPHREYS ROBERTS; Ruthin, Colonel CORNWALLIS WEST, who is thus Lord-Lieutenant, M.P., and Mayor!

A MODERN HERMIT.—At the Forden Board of Guardians, on Wednesday, Wm Parry, an elderly pauper, from the parish of Berriew, applied to the Board for permission to quit the House.—The Master (Mr Davies) stated that the applicant had lived in trees in the neighbourhood and a cave under a tree on the Dolforwyn estate, in which he had slept during the last fifteen years. He was supplied with food by the servants on the estate.—In answer to the Chairman, Parry said he intended going to his cave again.—Mr T. Ll. Murray Browne said the weather was too severe for that, and Parry said he had slept there during the winters.—The application was refused.

SHROPSHIRE FOLK LORE.*

Miss Burne has at last completed her "Shropshire Folk-Lore," and a very interesting book it is. The two parts originally projected have grown into three, and the third is almost double the size of the first, so that we have altogether a goodly volume of 660 pages. Miss Burne makes some apology for exceeding the limits of her title, but she will be readily forgiven in affording her readers more entertainment than they bargained for: e.g., this epitaph from Burford Churchyard:—

When from this life he did depart
His death was caused by a cart!

(*) London: Trübner and Co. Shrewsbury: Adnitt and Naunton. Chester: Minshull and Meeson.

Or this from Wentnor, which records the decease of Samuel and Mary Perkins, and Samuel their son, killed the 2nd of February, 1772, by an avalanche of snow from the Longmynd, which overwhelmed a row of cottages at Asterton :—

One Sunday morn Bout Nine a Clock as we Lay in our Bed,
By Hurricane of Wind and Snow all three were killed Dead,
The house and we were Blown a way as many well Did know,
And for that day Could not be found all for the depth of Snow.
Fourteen Poor Souls were under it, but with us were killed Seven,
I hope the Lord hath Pardoned us and Received our Souls in Heaven.

Miss Burne closes her work with a short historical sketch of Shropshire, to elucidate the folk-lore of the county. In this sketch Llywarch Hen is mentioned, not indeed without some doubt as to the character of that much-quoted bard, who, we are sorry to say, seems to have been an arrant impostor. At any rate, the poems of "Llywarch Hen" must be post-dated some centuries, and thus lose almost all their historic value. But the question is one of small moment in dealing with what we may call the philological divisions of Shropshire, which Miss Burne treats in a very interesting way, pointing out, for instance, that in all probability North-West Shropshire was peopled by Mercians and South and West Shropshire by West Saxons. The dialectic differences come out in Miss Jackson's "Word Book," and it is curious to note the corresponding difference in domestic customs, like the hiring of servants. Another fact which Miss Burne dwells upon is the thoroughly English character of almost all Shropshire except the districts of Oswestry and Clun. There are many Welshmen in Shrewsbury (where Welsh, we believe, is the language of at least two places of worship), but this is traced to immigration, not to the existence of a native Welsh population.

Turning to the folk-lore which Miss Burne has collected with such untiring industry, we are constantly reminded by these pages of the rapid disappearance of long-continued customs, and thus impressed all the more with a sense of the value of Miss Burne's labours. She has put these things on record only just in time to rescue some of them from oblivion, for steam and elementary schools are not favourable to old customs, and the present writer, though he is on the right side of fifty, can well remember popular observances which are now entirely abandoned. Two of the chapters in the last Part are devoted to "Customs and Superstitions Concerning Days and Seasons," particularly All Saints and Christmas. Many of our readers may scarcely know what "Souling" is, though the custom still lingers on both sides of the Border, and most people must have heard the souling ditty, often however sung at Christmas—

The roads are very dirty,
My shoes are very thin,
I've got a little pocket
To put a penny in.

Forty years ago these lines were commonly used by children who went round Shrewsbury singing carols and begging; but even carol-singing is going out of fashion, except where it is resuscitated into artificial life by Church and Chapel choirs. We must not linger over the pages devoted to the "Feast of the Dead" in the beginning of November or the "Festival of the Birth" of Christ, founded upon the Saturnalia, the "Birthday of the Unconquered Sun," of the Romans, upon which Miss Burne says—

Even to this day, when the Gospeller at the altar, instead of telling the story of the Babe of Bethlehem, born in a stable and

cradled in a manger, proclaims each Christmas morning that "That was the True Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world," he bears witness to the victory won of old by Christianity over Paganism, when man's natural rejoicing in the prospect of returning light and lengthening days was turned into devout thanksgiving for the gift of the Divine Light of the World.

The chapter on "Well Worship" is particularly noteworthy here because several of the wells of which Miss Burne writes are in the neighbourhood of Oswestry and on the Borders of Wales, St. Oswald's, of course, being prominent amongst them. "Our most famous wishing well, I might almost say the most famous of all our wells, just outside Oswestry, if I read its traditional history aright, has practically been the origin of that thriving and important market town." It is highly probable, from the evidence of facts, Miss Burne thinks, that King Oswald met his death in the neighbourhood of Oswestry, and possibly the old market cross—"The Cross" of to-day marks its site—was erected on the spot where the warrior's mangled limbs hung for a whole year betwixt heaven and earth. The place of pilgrimage naturally became a place of merchandise; its convenience as a meeting-ground between English and Welsh attracted many traders; and thus "the flourishing town of Oswestry grew up." Several stories are told of Oswald's Well, where, if you only wish aright, almost anything is to be had for the wishing; a fact which we are all the more anxious to make known, because the majority of the present inhabitants are ignorant of the virtues of their famous well. Woolston's Well, though not so famous, has been the scene of more stirring events. It "became the rendezvous of the country, who from the middle of May to the end of harvest resorted from all parts thither, some (at nights) to bathe and dance and riot most of the night at the alehouses, of which there were during the summer not less than five [they must have been temporary booths]; this ill custom lasted many years, till it was broke about the year 1755." The well, however, is not deserted, for when Miss Burne visited it in June, 1885, "a broken arm was in course of treatment there; the injured man coming early every morning to dip it in the well, by the advice of his doctor, who, canny man, no doubt knew that his prescription of cold water applications was much more likely to be obeyed if he recommended recourse to a holy well instead of a common pump! Below the well is another small spring, reputed to be excellent 'eye-water.'" We should like to cull many extracts from the chapter on "Wakes, Fairs, and Feasts," but must be content with one, the copy of an advertisement which appeared in the *Shrewsbury Chronicle* in 1777, and which in a few lines gives a vivid picture of the old wakes:—

Shawbury, August 1, 1777.

Notice is hereby given, that Shawbury Wakes begins on Monday, the 11th day of August, 1777, when there will be the usual Divisions of Stage Play on Monday, a Horse Race on Tuesday and Wednesday, for £50 each day, subject to Articles. No one will be allowed to bring any kind of liquors on the Racecourse for sale that don't subscribe five shillings towards the Plate.

N.B.—There will be an Ordinary for the Gentlemen at the Elephant and Castle, and for the Ladies at the Squirrel, each day. Dinner to be on the table at two o'clock.

There will be an assembly each night. A Stag to be turned out on Monday morning, exactly at nine o'clock.

Nunc est bibendum, nunc pede libero pulsanda tellus. Hor.

Before Queen Bess possessed the Throne
To frisk and play at Wakes was known.
A cup of happy Beer went round.
And lads and lasses trod the ground.

Custom, Nature's near relation,
Indulges every tender passion. }
Love for love supports the nation. }

Come, cheery damsels, come away;
Nice dress your Hair for Shawb'ry Play;
Then to the Ball, and Dance till day.

Of Oswestry Wakes there seem to be few traces left, but we hope that even yet some of our correspondents may discover facts connected with "the races between the Church and the Cross," &c., and publish them in *Bye-Gones*. Bull-baiting and Bear-baiting were favourite pastimes at wakes, and were practised in Shropshire in the present century. The former was put down at Ellesmere in 1813, by Mr Robert Clarke, agent to the Earl of Bridgewater; and the last bear-baiting remembered at Loppington was in 1825, "in celebration of the marriage of the Vicar's daughter to a neighbouring country gentleman"! The northern border of North Shropshire seems to have been the centre of this cruel sport—which the clergy laboured to abolish—in the early part of the century. Robinson of Hanmer kept a famous bear; and at Cockshutt the three inns of the village each had an animal ready for the wakes. It is worth noting that when an attempt was made to revive cock-fighting a few years ago the same district was the scene of battle. A curious privilege attached to two of the fairs of Market Drayton before the passing of the Excise Acts reminds us of the "bush" sometimes seen abroad as the sign of a wine-shop, and of course recalls the familiar proverb. "Any publican who nailed a holly-bush over his door thereby acquired the right to brew and sell ale freely for three days and three nights, while the fair lasted."

The description of rustic "Stage Plays," tempting as it is, must be passed over, nor can we do much more than briefly mention the other chapters of the book, "Gam-s," "Ballads, Songs, and Carols," "Rhymes and Sayings," "Proverbs," and "Church Bells." Even such apparently small matters as nicknames are not despised by Miss Burne, who mentions a "Mrs Jones the Brass-knocker" at Oswestry, which is famous for nicknames, or rather was, for they are much less common now than in our fathers' times, when "Billy Smallbeer" was a public character, and people talked of "Mrs Davies the Machine" and "Neddy Aye Aye," and "Neddy Bah," of whom the following perfectly authentic story is told. "Neddy Bah" was met in the street one day by the Minister of the Old Chapel, who, thinking it undignified to address him as Neddy, and believing that his real name was Bah, accosted him as "Mr Edward Bah." Neddy, of course, was more enraged by this seemingly studied insult than by the nickname to which, in a long course of years, he had grown familiar, and which was in such ordinary use that, as we have seen, the "Bah" had come to be regarded as genuine. But we must take leave of Miss Burne, and we do so, as all her readers will, with sincere admiration for the conscientious labour which she has brought to her work, and gratitude for the admirable result. Miss Burne writes with a mind well-stored in folk-lore, and her book is much more than a mere compilation, useful though that would be. The customs, and superstitions, and sayings, of Shropshire folk are compared with the folk-lore of other lands and ancient peoples, and thus we get a step nearer to the meaning of many things, and what would otherwise seem small and trivial acquires new importance as one fresh link in an endless chain of evidence.

NOVEMBER 17, 1886.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY BELLRINGERS (Oct. 20, 1886).—Copy of 2nd page.—Subscriptions received on the 19th day of March, 1814, on account of the defeat of Buonaparte by General Blucher, the loss of seventy pieces of

cannon, and from 70 to 80 thousand killed, wounded, and taken prisoners, General Sebastian and Macdonald killed.

Charles Lloyd, Mayor	...	...	5	0
John Jones...	...	...	2	6
John Croxon	...	...	2	6
Lewis Jones	...	...	2	6
Do. do. (1) (old)	...	...	2	6
Wm. Williams (2)	...	...	2	0
Thos. Hilditch	...	...	2	0
Ar. Davies	...	...	2	6
P. Roberts	...	...	2	6
H. P. Tozer Aubrey	...	...	2	6
John Hunt (3)	...	...	2	6
Th. L. Jones	...	...	2	6
Robt. Cartwright	...	...	2	6
John Lucas (4)	...	...	2	0
Ow. Owen	...	...	2	0

Card. ford. ... 1 18 0

Churchwordins ... 14 0
Mr Hopkins ... 1 0

Card. ford. ... 2 13 0

HOOSE.

INTRODUCTION OF GAS INTO OSWESTRY.—

The following extracts from the prospectus issued on the first supply of gas to Oswestry will be interesting:—

"Oswestry Gas light to commence in the month of September next (1821).

R. ROBERTS

Begs to present to the notice of the inhabitants of Oswestry the following scale of charges per annum for Burners of various sizes, calculated for lighting to the hours below mentioned:—

8			9			10			11			12			Height of flame. Inches.
o'clock.			o'clock.			o'clock.			o'clock.			o'clock.			
COCKSPURS. 1 JET.															
£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d	3½
0	12	0	1	0	6	1	4	6	1	8	6	1	14	0	
ARGANDS. 6 JETS.															
1	9	0	2	6	0	2	13	6	3	5	0	3	16	0	2½

Batwing for street light from the 20th September to the 21st of March, £5 per annum.

The last column contains the height which the flame issuing from the respective burners will not be suffered to exceed.

Persons who wish to take the light may apply to Robert Roberts, by whom their names will be entered numerically in a book, and branch pipes laid in rotation. The Proprietor only contracts to fix the pipes just within the house, and to supply the light when the interior is fitted up, and made air tight, which must be done by each individual.

On Saturday evenings the Proprietor will allow burning till twelve o'clock.

In no case can any person be supplied with gas without a glass over the burner, as three or four times the quantity of gas is consumed, accompanied with an extremely offensive odour, when this rule is departed from. The Proprietor recommends the use of the straight chimney glasses, in which the gas burns with a much steadier light than in any others. If too large a flame is attempted to be pro-

(1) Evidently the amount not paid 27/11/1813.

(2) Lawyer.

(3) Cross Keys Hotel.

(4) Draper.

duced, the illuminating power is little, if at all, increased, whilst the light is much injured, both in purity and brilliance, as a quantity of gas passes off unconsumed, to the loss of the concern and without benefit to the consumer.

Oswestry, June 11, 1821."

LUX.

QUERIES.

NOVELS RELATING TO WALES.—"*Gladys the Reaper*;" a Novel in three vols. By the Author of "*Simplicity and Fascination*." London: Bentley (1860.) The scenes are mostly laid in Carmarthenshire. Who was the Author? R.W.

CONEY GREEN, OSWESTRY.—Can anyone give the derivation of the name "Coney Green." I noticed the other day in some old deeds that the field which is site, was called "Coneygre" about 120 years ago, and in subsequent deeds it was called "Coneygre," or "Coney Green." In Wiltshire there are some fields called "Coneygre," and it would be interesting to know the meaning of the term "gre," and whether the "Coney" relates to "conies" (which is doubtful).

HOOSE.

LORD PRESIDENT OF THE PRINCIPALITY.—In a Biographical Notice of Samuel Butler, published in a reprint of the Edition of 1744 of Hudibras, we read of Butler—"and being endued with that innate modesty which rarely finds promotion in Princes' Courts, he became Secretary to Richard Earl of Carbury, Lord President of the Principality of Wales, who made him Steward of Ludlow Castle, when the Court there was revived." Will any of your correspondents give an account of the office held by this Earl of Carbury—when was it created—and when abolished, and what were the duties and prerogatives of the Lord President for the Principality of Wales? MYLLIN.

A TREATISE CONTAINING

the AEQUITY of
And Humble Suppli-
cation which is to be
Exhibited unto Hir
Gracious Majesty and
this high Court of Parliament
in the behalf of the Countrey of
Wales that some order may
be taken for the preaching of
the Gospel among those
people.

Wherein also is set downe as much of the estate of our people as without offence could be made known to the end that our case (if it please God) may be pitied by them who are not of this assembly and so they also may be driven to labour in our behalfe.

AT OXFORD

Printed by JOSEPH BARNES, and are to be sold in Pauls Church-yard at the Signe of the Tyger's Head — 1587.

The foregoing is the Frontispiece of a pamphlet, 12 mo: in size; it has 62 pages, and a short address to the

Reader on the last leaf, which is not paged. Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* say whether it is mentioned in *Llyfryddiaeth Y Cymry*, or who compiled it? No name appears in any part of it that would indicate the author.

ZETA.

REPLIES.

TWR TEWDWS (Oct. 6, Nov. 3, 1886.)—With reference to E. OWEN's query and "W.D.W's." reply as to the different names by which the *Pleiades* are known in various parts of Wales, I may say that, although grown up persons called them "*Y Twr Tewdws*," children almost always called these stars "*Y twr tatus*" ("the potatoe heap") in the neighbourhood of Corwen thirty years ago. In the same district "*The Great Bear*" was called "*Y Saith Seren Llŵg*." I have not heard this constellation called "*Y Saith Seren Sriol*."

EDEYRNION.

CURRENT NOTES.

On Wednesday the Bishop of Bangor opened a new church at Dolwyddelan, near Festiniog, towards which Lady Willoughby gave £1,100 and a site.

At a meeting of Welshmen held at Liverpool on Thursday night, Nov. 4, it was unanimously decided to form a Junior Welsh National Society to promote the welfare of Wales, and of Welshmen in general. Mr J. H. Roberts, 14, Brae-street, Kensington, was elected honorary secretary.

Dr Hoffman held an inquiry on Friday respecting the closing of Ludford Churchyard, Ludlow. Only the evidence of the parish clerk was taken. Dr Hoffman said he should make a report to the Home Office to close the graveyard, on and after December 31, 1887, against all further interments, except in the cases of vaults in which parishioners had private rights.

The death is announced, at the age of eighty, of the Rev. G. R. Edwards, vicar of Shawbury. He was ordained in 1831, and his first curacy was that of St. Martin's, Shropshire. Subsequently he became curate to his father at Aldford, and acted as domestic chaplain to the late Marquis of Westminster. In 1854 he was presented to the living of Shawbury by Sir Vincent Corbet.

The ceremony of opening the Chester Diocesan House of Mercy was performed last week by the Bishop of the Diocese. The site was presented by the Duke of Westminster. The portion of the institution now erected is that which in the completed home will be known as the "Probationers' and Laundry Cottages," and the small and large laundries in connection with them. The complete design will include cottages for a large additional number of penitents, together with a central management house, with general kitchen for the entire home, and a communicating corridor for the whole institution, one flank of the latter being already built in connection with the laundries and cottages now completed. The chapel will be detached from the general buildings, but be in communication with the corridor.

A remarkable discovery has just been made by some workmen on the estate of the Duke of Westminster, at Halkyn. In order to carry out some repairs near to Rhosmor, it was found necessary to cut down a fine sycamore tree, about six feet in circumference, which grew in the fence. In felling the tree the men struck against a hard substance, which proved to be a cannon ball, ten pounds weight, which was embedded in a cavity right in the heart

of the tree. The ball must have been in its position for a number of years, and have been shot there when the tree was young, for there were no indications on the bark to show that it had been disturbed or injured. It may be of some interest to add that the discovery was made not far distant from the old ramparts of Foel Gaer. The cannon ball is now in the possession of Mr George Hughes, Old Hall, agent to the Duke of Westminster.

Last week the remains of Elizabeth Menlove Drake were interred in the Ardwick Cemetery, Manchester. She was born at Battle Peaton, Shropshire, on the 27th September, 1783, so that at the time of her death, which took place on Saturday, November 6, she was in her 104th year. Evidence of undoubted character as to her great age is furnished by a copy of her baptismal certificate. This document, which is signed by the Rev Andrew Pope, vicar of Diddlebury, shows that the date of her baptism, as given in the parish register, is January 20, 1784. The deceased, whose maiden name was Dawes, was married at Aston Parish Church when she was twenty-two years of age, and at Christmas, 1810, sailed with her husband—who was a trooper in the army—for Bombay. After being in India three years, the couple returned to England, and shortly afterwards joined the army of the Duke of Wellington on the Continent. The husband of the deceased was engaged in the battle of Waterloo, and Mrs Drake herself was employed in nursing the wounded. She appears to have been a very close observer of what took place on that memorable occasion, for she was able almost up to the day of her death to give a vivid description of what she witnessed at Waterloo. She had only two children, and both were born after she was fifty years old. Her husband died about forty years ago, and for many years Mrs Drake has lived in Manchester, receiving some small sum from the Guardians of the poor; help being also rendered her by ladies connected with the Grosvenor-street Wesleyan Chapel. The deceased, who was able to sew and read without using spectacles, was in fair health up to about three weeks ago. Her death was due simply to natural decay.

The *Calendar of the University College of North Wales* (Manchester: J. E. Cornish) contains a preface setting forth briefly the origin and establishment of the College; a copy of the charter and statutes, the rules for the government of the students, a syllabus of classes, and a mass of other information, including the examination papers for 1885. A description of the laboratories is illustrated by a plan.

Dr Lawton Roberts of Ruabon has issued a second edition of his *Illustrated Lectures on Ambulance Work* (London: H. K. Lewis, Gower-street), which we welcomed in this column when they first appeared in print. We need only add that the book has been "revised throughout," that it is illustrated with six additional diagrams, and that two of the lectures have been enlarged. It is a matter for congratulation that books like this should reach a second edition.

Miss Cranogwen Rees has translated into Welsh *A Letter from an Old Mother to Young Women* by the authoress of "Ragged Homes and How to Mend Them." This little book as the translator states, has been published at the expense of "the wife of one of our most efficient members of Parliament," and the object is to circulate it widely in Wales for the benefit of young Welshwomen.

We have already mentioned Lord Powis's liberal gift to the Powysland Club of an extra volume, containing the Herbert MSS., and must return to it again when the de-

mands upon our space permit us to give extracts from this interesting collection. The second part of the 19th volume of the *Montgomeryshire Collections* contains the continuation of "Materials for the History of Welshpool," the "History of the Parish of Llanbrynmair," and "Half-timbered Houses of Montgomeryshire," together with "Royalist Composition Papers," "Instances of Longevity and Sagacity of Montgomeryshire Horses," "Montgomeryshire Causes heard before the Court of the Marches," &c. It is surprising that the editors can keep this publication up to so high a pitch of interest and value.

It is always pleasant to take up a volume of the "Book-Lover's Library" (London: Elliot Stock), because of the dainty way in which it is turned out, and when the contents also are dainty, as in the *Diversions of a Bookworm* by Mr J. Rogers Rees, we read the book through at a sitting, and then like to think it will lie on the shelves to be dipped into now and again for the entertainment which comes of literary gossip. Mr Rees writes as if he loved his subject, and that is a good start; and he takes us into excellent company. Everybody who cares for books with a personal affection must be interested in the tastes and habits of the writers; and how dull he must be for whom the library at Abbotsford, or the modest rooms where Charles Lamb wrote, or the haunts of Emerson and Hawthorne, have no attraction! Perhaps some of Mr Rees's stories are familiar to many reading-men, but they are mostly of the kind which bear telling again. Take this, for example, of Talleyrand's wife, the lady who gave rise to his famous saying, that "A clever wife often compromises her husband, whilst a stupid one only compromises herself"—

Talleyrand had invited Sir George Robinson to dinner, and telling Madame that their guest was a great traveller, and liked to be spoken to concerning his travels, requested her to pay him much attention. This she did by informing him how concerned she had felt when reading of the privations he had undergone, and the shifts he had been put to during his sojourn on the uninhabited island. Her visitor was greatly puzzled; said nothing, but bowed his acknowledgments and thought the more. Presently she asked, with much apparent interest, for news of *cher Vendredi*, that dear faithful man Friday, who had been such a comfort to him. The truth then dawned upon him, and madame was duly informed that a less celebrated personage than Defoe's hero had the honour of being her guest.

And Mr Rees has explored the by-ways of literature and found entertainment there which all who appreciate humour will enjoy. The following are extracts from a "Catalogue of Five Hundred Celebrated Authors of Great Britain now Living," published in 1788:—

HORSLEY, Samuel, D.D., F.R.S., Lord Bishop of St. David's. Dr. Horsley married his maid-servant, and is the editor of the late edition of Sir Isaac Newton's *Principia*.

NEWMAN, Henry Charles Christian Theodore, a German by birth, and a clergyman of the Church of England. He published a *Sermon Preached before the Humane Society*, remarkable for rotundity of period and neatness of construction; and a poem on the *Love of our Country*, containing a very animated parallel between the character of Jesus Christ and the Duchess of Devonshire.

SCOTT, —, a poetess. Author of a performance entitled *The Female Advocate*, which has had between two and three admirers.

TRIMMER, —, a devout lady who has dedicated her slender talents to the instructing from the press the rising generation. Her works are, *Sacred History* in four volumes duodecimo; and a little *Spelling Book*, price sixpence.

TYTLER, Alexander, a professor of universal history in the University of Edinburgh. This gentleman distinguished himself with reputation in the controversy in favour of the innocence of Mary Queen of Scots. He also published in 1783, a *Syllabus of his Lectures on Universal History* in one volume octavo; and in 1784 was the first person in these islands who ventured in an

air balloon, though for want of being able to afford the expense, he only sailed over two barns and a stable.

Another volume of the Book-Lover's Library is the *Literature of Local Institutions* by Mr Laurence Gomme, whose name alone is almost a sufficient guarantee that the work is well done. Mr Gomme has adopted an excellent arrangement. Dividing his work into chapters on the Shire, the Hundred, Municipal Government, Gilds, the Manor, and the Township and Parish, he first gives a concise history of each, as far as it is known, and then a list of the principal authorities on the subject. To mention omissions would be pointless, for Mr Gomme guards himself "against the supposition that the following pages are intended to give an exhaustive account of the literature of local institutions," his aim being "to point out how extensive that literature is," and "what are the best guides to learn the history of any particular section of the subject"; but we may say that a good deal of valuable information on such subjects as "Gilds," "Parishes," &c., for example, is contained in the Transactions of Various Provincial Archaeological Societies, which must be carefully examined before the subject can be exhaustively treated. Mr Gomme's more modest and most useful object in writing this book will, we hope, be accomplished. Amongst other things he calls attention to the way in which municipal property is too often kept, a subject mentioned by Mr Stanley Leighton in his recent address to the Shropshire Archaeological Society:—

In the *Antiquary* for August, 1835, we learn a very terrible state of things relative to the regalia of Exeter:—"The careless manner in which the most valuable portion of it is preserved at the Guildhall is open to the gravest objection. The priceless swords,—the only known examples of early royal swords existing in England to-day; the maces, and other things appertaining thereto, are kept in a flimsy cupboard on the top of the stairs, a cupboard that any schoolboy could break open with a jack-knife. A window is close by, communicating with the roofs of adjacent houses, and through it any one, with even only ordinary address, could readily make off with the whole paraphernalia, without the inspector and the police in their offices beneath being any the wiser. Further, if the thief took the trouble to fasten the cupboard doors again after him, the loss would, in all probability, not be discovered until the next time the insignia were wanted."

After the passing of the Municipal Reform Act of 1835, much of the old corporation archives were entirely destroyed. Instances of this are given in the *Gentleman's Magazine* and other contemporary authorities. In the above-mentioned journal for March, 1836, the following facts are recorded:—

"The new Corporations have, in some places, made a perfect clearance of the insignia of office and other property of their predecessors. At Leicester everything of the kind has been sold off. An ancient tobacco-box, of a very curious pattern, chased with the town arms upon the lid, with the name of the donor inscribed beneath, and the date of 1582, weight 8oz 13dwts, was sold after the rate of 27s per ounce. The first civic mace weighed 5oz 4dwts, and was sold for £9; the second, 5oz 8dwts, was sold for £6 15s; the third, 5oz 10dwts, was sold for £6 6s; the recorder's mace, 36oz, was sold for £16; the fifth was the large, grand state mace, richly chased and gilt. It weighed upwards of 100 ounces, and was in an excellent state of preservation, and realised the sum of £85. Besides these there was a fine portrait of the late William Pitt, presented to the Corporation by Samuel Smith, Esq., a late member for the borough, which sold for fifty guineas.

"At Hull a motion was made that the regalia, viz, the sword of state, the mace, and cap of maintenance, should be deposited in the Museum of the Philosophical Society, as objects of antiquarian interest and curiosity; but this proposal creating a fear that such a display of the 'baubles' would place them too highly in the estimation of the people, a radical councillor, who asserted that 'he would rather lock them up in a dark room, and throw the key into the Humber,' moved, as an amendment, that they should remain in the custody of the mayor for the time being, and this amendment was carried by a majority of 17 to 4. The sword was presented to the town by Henry VIII in 1541."

On another page we get an interesting glimpse of the folk-moot in London—

In 1262 we have the following remarkable passage. The mayor, Thomas FitzThomas, during the time of his mayoralty, had so pampered the city populace, that, styling themselves the "commons of the city," they had obtained the first voice in the city. For the mayor, in doing all that he had to do, acted and determined through them, and would say to them, "Is it your will that so it shall be?" and then if they answered "Ya, ya," so it was done. And on the other hand, the aldermen or chief citizens were little or not at all consulted on such matters. In 1265 the populace cried "Nay, nay" to the proposed election of William FitzRichard as sheriff, and demanded Thomas FitzThomas.

Mr Gomme's book will be acceptable to all readers who are interested in an important subject.

A CENTENARIAN.—A widow named Rebecca Grosvenor residing at Newtown, Montgomeryshire, has just attained her 102nd year, having been born in 1784. Her health is excellent, and her eyesight is so good that she can read and thread a needle without the use of glasses.

THE WEATHER.—As a result of the exceptionally mild weather in North Wales, a second crop of peas has been gathered in the Vale of Llangollen. Wild strawberries and primroses have also been met with. Recently, at Bryncochbach, near Mold, a blackbird's nest, containing four eggs, was found in a garden.

ALDERMAN LONGUEVILLE.—One of the Aldermen re-elected at Oswestry last week, Mr Longueville, had filled the office for more than half-a-century, ever since the first election under the Municipal Reform Act in 1835. It may be doubted whether there is another case of a similar kind in the kingdom. Of the gentlemen nominated for the post of town councillor at Oswestry in the same year not one survives.

THE NOMINATION OF SHERIFFS.

The annual nomination of Sheriffs for the counties of England and Wales took place on Friday in the Lord Chief Justice's Court, at the Royal Courts of Justice. The following is the official return of the sheriff nominated for the following counties:—

DENBIGHSHIRE—Mr H. D. Pochin, of Bodnant Hall, Conway; Captain J. C. Best, of Plas-y-n-Vivod, Llangollen; Sir R. W. H. Palmer, Bart., of Cefn Park, Wrexham.

FLINTSHIRE—Mr T. Bate, of Kelsterton; Mr W. H. Gladstone, of Hawarden Castle; Sir Pyers W. Mostyn, Bart., of Talacre.

MERIONETHSHIRE—Mr E. Evans-Lloyd, of Moel-y-Garnedd, Bala; Mr E. Gilliat Jones, of Vrondderw, Bala; Mr C. R. W. Tottenham, of Plas Berwyn, Llangollen.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE—Mr C. W. Owen, Fronfrith; Mr W. C. Winder, Vaynor Park; Mr H. Leslie, Bryntnaf.

CARDIGANSHIRE—Mr A. Lewis Gwynne, Mynachty; Mr T. H. Rice Hughes, Neuaddfawr, Lampeter; Mr W. O. Brigstocke, Park-y-Gorse, Cardigan.

SHROPSHIRE—Sir Offly Wakeman, Bart., Rorrington Lodge, Chirbury; Mr A. Pemberton Heywood-Lonsdale, Shavington, Whitechurch; Mr J. Tayleur, Buntingsdale, Market Drayton.

THE BLACK CATTLE HERD BOOK.

It is satisfactory to learn from the second volume of the "North Wales Black Cattle Herd Book" that "the efforts of the Committee to promote a greater interest in the general improvement of Black Welsh Cattle have met with satisfactory results." At the same time there is ample room for further improvement, and it is to be hoped that the publication of this new volume will secure far greater support for the Society. Since the publication of the first volume several fresh herds have been established; the entries now number 411; and Mr R. B. Smith, who speaks with the authority of more than a quarter of

a century's experience, bears witness to "the great improvement of the breed generally," adding—"There should be no difficulty now in obtaining animals of first-rate quality, either male or female, which was almost impossible ten or fifteen years ago, especially in bulls." The present volume is illustrated with lithographs of three bulls and five cows, the property of Lord Harlech and other well-known owners. Lord Harlech's "Einion" is a fine-looking animal, bred by his lordship, which took a second prize at "the Royal" at Preston, and the champion prize for the best bull at Bala in 1885. The Herd Book is now edited, with great care, we should think, and satisfactory results, by Mr W. Arthur Dew of Wellfield House, Bangor, and this volume is turned out in good style by Mr J. R. Brown, printer, of that city. Everyone who is interested in the history and improvement of the Welsh breed will find the book of real service. It contains a great deal of information with regard to the animals entered in it, including the prizes which they have taken, and the produce of many of the cows.

THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD OF WALES, 1887.

Last week was a busy and an interesting one to London Welshmen, for the "Gorsedd of the Bards of the Isle of Britain" had to be held with befitting pomp and ceremony in the Gardens of the Inner Temple. The immediate purpose of the Gorsedd was to proclaim formally the National Eisteddfod of Wales for 1887, which, as is now well known, is to be held in London. Inspired by the desire to carry on the ceremony in accordance with the traditions of the past, the Eisteddfod Committee decided to invite a sufficient number of representative bards from the Principality to enable them to dispense with what may be termed local and laical assistance. Invitations were issued accordingly, and last Wednesday saw a larger muster of Welsh bards than have probably ever before been seen at a Gorsedd Proclamation. In honour of the visit of the bards, the Welsh National Societies of London, being the Society of Ancient Britons, the Cymmrodorion Society, the Old Oswestrians, the London-Ruthin Association, the Eisteddfod Committee, and the National Eisteddfod Association, gave a dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday evening, under the presidency of Mr J. H. Puleston, M.P. The dinner was in every way a success. It was attended by over two hundred persons. The guests of the evening occupied the High Table, right and left of the Chairman. Amongst them were the following:—Clwydfardd, Aber-ele, Gwalchmai, Llandudno, Hwfa Môn, Llanerchymedd, Cadfan, Aberffraw, Llew Llwyfo, Carnarvon, Nathan Dyfed, Merthyr, Dewi Wyn o Essyllt, Pontypridd, Llyfbrbryf, Liverpool, Iolo Trefaldwyn, Wrexham, Pedr Mostyn, Rhyl, Twm Gwynedd, Abergynolwyn, Berw, Aber, Dyfed, Cardiff, Dewi Môn, Brecon, Tafolog, Newtown, Idris Vychan, Manchester, and the harper, Telynor Cymru, Newtown.

The toast of the evening, that of "The Eisteddfod," was proposed by the Chairman, who spoke partly in Welsh and partly in English. He congratulated his audience, composed of the Welsh men and the Welsh women of London, on the fact that they were honoured that night by the presence of venerable bards of whom they were very proud, and who had come from the Principality which they loved so well in order to show to the Welsh people of London how greatly they appreciated the efforts the London Welshmen were making in the national cause. Among these bards were Mr David Griffith (Clwydfardd), 86 years of age, and the Rev. R. Parry (Gwalchmai), who had attained the age of 82. The Eisteddfod was the most ancient institution in the known world. They had read formerly in the leading journal that it was an institution

which it would probably be just as well not to perpetuate. But they in Wales took the liberty of thinking for themselves, and they thought that the revival of this grand old institution would educationally, socially, and in particular musically, do an infinite amount of good and give an infinite amount of pleasure to the Welsh people. Accordingly they persevered, and they arrived at such a point that they were now getting the plaudits of their English friends. With great gratification he read in *The Times* a few weeks ago a remarkable article, wherein the great fact was admitted that the Eisteddfod was an institution of which any country might be proud. (Cheers.) It spite of all that might be said by their English brethren as to the inutility of the Welsh language, he ventured to state that a knowledge of the Welsh language was no barrier to the progress of the Welsh people. This was amply proved by the experience of the Welsh settlers in the United States.—Clwydfardd, in responding in Welsh, dwelt on the prospects of the forthcoming London festival. He observed that the welcome extended to the representatives of Welsh bardism by their countrymen in Caerludd (the city of Lud) far exceeded in grandeur and warmth anything of the kind ever before attempted in connection with the Eisteddfod. This was a sure sign that London would excel all other places in making the national institution of Wales next year a great and lasting success. He remembered London when it was much smaller than it was at present, and when it contained but a small number of Welshmen. Time had improved the position, and the Welsh community was now able to give the Eisteddfod a fitting reception.—Gwalchmai, an Eisteddfodwr only a few years Clwydfardd's junior, proposed the toast of "Cymru Fu, Cymru Fydd," to which Cadfan and Pedr Mostyn replied.—Hwfa Môn and Nathan Dyfed replied to the toast of the "Bards," proposed by the Rev. Ellis J. Jones, M.A.; and Alderman Evans, in an excellent speech, acknowledged the toast of the "London Eisteddfod and its Officers."—The other toasts included "The Pulpit and the Press," the "London Welsh Societies," "The President," and "The Ladies."—Mr John Ceiriog Hughes made a great hit by declaring that the Welsh bards, finding that her Majesty the Queen did not come to the Eisteddfod in Wales, had resolved next year to bring the Eisteddfod to the Queen. He also referred to the pleasure he and all felt to see the Gorsedd back again in London, and he compared the event to the return of the "Ark (Maen Arch) to the City of David, to the sound of the harp, the cornet, and tympan."

On Thursday, at three o'clock, the "highest assembly of the Isle of Britain" was held in the Garden of the Inner Temple by kind permission of the Benchers. It was conducted by Clwydfardd as Archdderwydd, assisted by the bards already named. The quaint ceremony, relic, as it is supposed, of Druidic times, was watched with intense interest by a large concourse of people, estimated variously at from 1,200 to 1,800, who, notwithstanding the heavy downpour of rain, held their ground to the last.

Only the harpist appeared in the traditional Druidic costume—viz., a blue cap and robe, a green cloak, and a red girdle. All the other bards were in the ordinary costume of the present day. One of them calmly smoked a cigar during the proceedings, and most of them were sheltered under umbrellas, though the Arch Druid, a venerable gentleman of 86 years of age, stood bareheaded for a long time in the drenching rain.

Mounting the central stone, which represents King Arthur's chair, the Arch Druid held out crosswise two gold-hilted swords, upon which all the bards laid hands, while the Druid in a loud voice asked "A oes heddwch?"

(Is it peace?) to which the assembly replied "Heddwch" (It is peace). Then the Arch Druid descended from the stone and gave place to the Rev Rowland Williams (Hwfa Môn), who offered the ancient Gorsedd prayer, of which the following is a translation:—

"Grant, O God, Thy protection;
 "And, in protection, strength;
 "And, in strength, understanding;
 "And, in understanding, knowledge;
 "And, in knowledge, knowledge of the just;
 "And, in knowledge of the just, the love of it;
 "And, in that love, the love of all that is essential;
 "And, in the love of all that is essential, the love of God,
 "God, and all that is Good."

This being concluded, the Gorsedd was declared open, and the Arch Druid read in Welsh a proclamation, the printed copy of which bears various mystic symbols. The three lines at the top represent the rays of Divine light, and the motto quoted in the text beneath, "The truth against the world," is that of the Gorsedd itself. The other four—namely, "God and all that is good," "Heart to heart," "O Jesus forbid injustice," and "He that slays shall be slain," are the mottoes respectively of the Bardic chairs of the provinces of Glamorgan, Dyfed (South-West Wales), Gwynedd (Northern Wales), and Powys (Central Wales). The motto below these, "God and His peace," is that of the Chair of King Arthur and the Round Table to which London, according to Bardic tradition, is attached. The proclamation runs thus:—

"On the day of Full Moon in the Month of the Falling Leaves, in the Winter Solstice, 1886.—Be it known:—That when the age of Christ is 1887 and when the period of the Bards of the Isle of Britain shall approach the Feast of the Solstice of Autumn—namely, the Equinox of the Harvest of Corn—after the Notice and Summons here given to all Wales at the sound of the Trumpet from this conspicuous place, in the hearing of country and Queen, a Gorsedd and Eisteddfod will be held in the chief city of Lud, in Britain, and thereunto all who seek privilege and licence in the Arts of Poesy and Song shall have right of access, and no weapon shall be unsheathed against them. (Then follows a list of the chief Bards expected to be present). And at that Eisteddfod the judgment of Chair and Gorsedd will be pronounced on Song and Poetry and upon the Poetic Inspiration, the character and attainments of all who seek such privilege, degree, and licence in the protection of the Chair of Arthur and the Round Table and that of Glamorgan, and according to the rights and privileges of the Bards of the Isle of Britain. "In the Face of the Sun, the Eye of Light."

After the reading of the proclamation a number of Bards mounted the stone in succession to recite the rhythmic "Englynion," or poetical compositions, in praise of the language, literature, and history of Wales. The ninth bard who came forward announced that he was about to recite his composition in English, but such deafening cries were raised of "Dim Saesonag" and "Cymraeg" that he had to abandon his original intention, and to deliver the poem in the Welsh tongue. The last of the bards called upon to mount the stone was the Rev Rowland Williams (Hwfa Môn), whose impassioned address was vociferously applauded by his fellow-countrymen, though he was very rudely interrupted by some of the audience who did not understand the Welsh tongue. After dwelling upon the ancient significance of the Gorsedd, he said he had to declare in London, on the banks of the "Tafwys," in the presence of Great Britain and of the Houses of Lords and Commons, that the motto of the old throne of Arthur there represented that day was "Truth against the world."

In conclusion, he remarked that the English language was of world-wide use, but they placed the Welsh language beside it, and applied to each the ancient motto, "Heart to heart." After this statement, which was received with loud cheering, the orator ceased, and the stone was taken possession of by Mr John Jones (Idris Vychan), who sang a number of Penillion (stanzas), to the accompaniment of the harp, in a clear and musical voice. Vychan received an encore, and he was followed by the Rev R. Parry (Gwalchmai), who is the second oldest Welsh bard, having reached the age of eighty-two. Notwithstanding the pitiless rain, Gwalchmai stood bare-headed and recited a poetic and patriotic poem. At its close the bards again assembled round the Arch Druid, and once more placed their hands upon the swords. Clwydfardd then repeated his question, "A oes heddwch?"; and having thrice received the reply "Heddwch," the proceedings were declared to be at an end.

In the evening a public meeting was held at the Holborn Town Hall, under the presidency of Mr Stephen Evans, who delivered an interesting address on Bardism and the Eisteddfod. The meeting was addressed by Cadfan, Ceiriog, Llew Llwyfo, Morien, Tafolog, and Mr Morgan Lloyd. Several of the bards also recited englynion in honour of the occasion. Miss Mary Davies, Miss Annie Williams, Mr David Hughes, Mr Dyfed Lewis, and Mr ap Herbert sang Welsh songs.

NOVEMBER 24, 1886.

NOTES.

SEDAN CHAIRS IN OSWESTRY.—In an advertisement dated 1821 of a sale of five houses "in or near a passage called Street-Arthur, leading from Willow-Street to the Town-Hall," it is stated that there will also be sold "a small building adjoining the said houses, now used for keeping a Sedan Chair." O.

A BRIEF.—Aids from Churches towards various matters that were considered worthy of support were once common, and many entries in parochial books show how often by means of briefs contributions were made by Churches towards assisting places in distress. The other day, when looking over the old Church books belonging to Llanychan, near Ruthin, I came upon several receipts of money obtained by means of Briefs in that Church, and perhaps a description of one of these bits of paper with the entries made on it will not be unworthy of a place in *Bye-Gones*, particularly as Berriew Church is mentioned in the brief, as having received 3d from the Minister and Church Wardens of Llanychan. The Brief is as follows:—

Received, June 2, 1802, of the Minister and Church Wardens of Llanychan—	d.
For Shelham Church	3
Feltham Church	3
Chelmsford Church	3
Berriew Church	3
Eller Fire	3

1 3

Per Nathan Maddocks, Collector.

Carnes, Printer, Holywell.

The receipt was a printed form with blanks for the day of the month and name of parish, and places assisted. Mr Maddocks's name is also printed, but between the second and third line this gentleman has written his name. E.O.

OSWESTRY HALF A CENTURY AGO.—Mr Longueville, who was re-elected an alderman of Oswestry on the 9th of the present November, is the only surviving member of the first Corporation under the Municipal Reform Act. The aldermen then elected were Messrs John Jones, Richard Croxon, Thomas Morris, Peploe Cartwright, T. L. Longueville, and John Jones, junr. The following list of successful (the first nine on each list) and unsuccessful candidates for the office of town-councillor at the first election under the Municipal Reform Act will be interesting for various reasons:—

EAST WARD.		WEST WARD.	
John Croxon ...	111	John Hayward ...	127
Francis Campbell ...	103	Thos. Rogers ...	120
George D. Owen ...	103	Edward D. Bennion ...	118
Francis Lucas ...	102	Charles Thomas Jones ...	117
Griffith Evans ...	99	John Jones, junr. ...	116
James Howell ...	93	Charles Sabine ...	115
Richard Bill ...	92	William Williams ...	113
William Price ...	91	James Williams ...	112
William Roberts ...	80	Thomas Penson ...	100
David Thomas ...	59	David Thomas ...	65
N. Minshall ...	53	N. Minshall ...	58
John Lacon ...	35	Thomas Jones ...	49
Charles Sabine ...	31	John Lacon ...	37
Th. Kyffin ...	26	Samuel Roberts ...	34
S. Roberts ...	22		
John Davies ...	19		
E. D. Jones ...	15		

It will be seen that a John Jones, jun., was elected Councillor and Alderman. Was it the same person, and if so, who was elected to fill his place when he was chosen for the higher office? A John Jones, jun., was also elected Councillor in 1836. To complete the list it may be added here that the late Mr John Croxon was the first Mayor of the Reformed Corporation, and the late Mr Richard Jones Croxon, who had been appointed Town Clerk by Lord Olive in 1832, was re-appointed to that office.

The population of Oswestry in 1835 was about half the present population. At the census taken June, 1831, it was

Males	2,007
Females	2,471
Total	4,478

(being an increase of 568 since 1821.) Families, 899. Inhabited houses, 885; uninhabited, 29. Houses built, 3. Total houses, 917.

DR. JOSEPH PRIESTLEY AND WREXHAM.—In working through the registers of Wrexham for my forthcoming History of the Church of that parish I have come upon the record of the marriage there, on June 23, 1762, of the famous Dr. Priestley with Miss Mary Wilkinson. It has, of course, been known that Dr. Priestley married Mary, a daughter of Mr Isaac Wilkinson, but the exact date and place of his marriage have not, I believe, hitherto been recorded. Mr Isaac Wilkinson worked at Bersham, the blast-furnaces of which were afterwards rendered more famous by John Wilkinson, the elder of his two sons. He was a member at the Presbyterian Chapel, Chester-street, Wrexham, and against his name in the register of this chapel are written

the words "Removed to Bristol." Joseph Priestley (who had not yet received his diploma of LL.D. from the University of Edinburgh) was in 1762 tutor in languages at the Dissenting Academy, Warrington, and is simply described in the Wrexham Parish Registers as "Joseph Priestley of the parish of Warrington."

Wrexham.

ALFRED NEOBARD PALMER.

QUERIES.

HARLEIAN MS. No. 6870.—Can any of your readers oblige me with a list of the Welsh pedigrees in Hugh Thomas's Collection, Harleian MS. No. 6870, Brit. Museum? Will the editor consider the question of printing this MS.?
T.Q.D.
North America.

REPLIES.

A TREATISE CONCERNING THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL IN WALES, 1587 (Nov. 17, 1886.) The treatise whose title-page ZETA gives is mentioned in *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry* p. 39, under the year 1587, where it is stated that, "It is said to have been the first work of John Penry (Waddington's *Pilgrim Martyr* p. 10.)" With reference to the printer, Joseph Barnes, a footnote says, "Years after this we have an account of one 'Thomas Barnes,' who had been deprived of the ministry at Maghor [Magwyr] in Monmouthshire, being sent by a Church named Alhall, London, to preach the Gospel in Wales, which he did in times of severity. He died about 1703" (Palmer's *Catalamf's Noncon. Mem.*, Vol. III., pp. 505-6.) As only six works are recorded by Rowlands in his *Llyfryddiaeth* under the year 1587, and the description of the title of this treatise differs in some respects from that given in *Bye-Gones* by ZETA, it would be interesting to know whether ZETA's version is an exact transcript, which it appears to be. The editor of *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry* (Rev D. Silvan Evans) says that he has taken great pains to verify all descriptions of title pages, &c., with books on his own shelves, and also in the British Museum and several private collections of Welsh books. I am inclined to think that he could not at the time of publishing the *Llyfryddiaeth* have seen this treatise, as the transcript given by ZETA bears *prima facie* evidence of being the more correct one. The following is the description given in *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry*:—

"A Treatise containing the Equity of an Humble Supplication which is to be exhibited to Her Gracious Majesty, and the High Court of Parliament, in the behalf of the country of Wales, that some order may be taken for the preaching of the Gosbel among those people; wherein is also set down as much of the estate of our people as without offence could be made known to the end (if it please God) may be pitied by them who are not of this assembly, and so they also may be drawn to labour in our behalf.

"Printed at Oxford by Joseph Barnes—to be sold in Paul's Church-yard, at the sign of the Tiger's Head. 1587."

BONWM.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Mosaics covering the entire north wall of Chester Cathedral, contributed by Mrs Platt, have been completed. The full series of eight pictures are arranged in pairs, with a smaller narrow portrait panel between them.

The *Chester Chronicle* publishes a record of hangings in Chester between the years 1809 and 1863, compiled partly from an old manuscript list, but principally from the entries made by the Sheriffs, preserved at the Town Hall. The list is interesting as showing the variety of the offences to which capital punishment was attached.

At the sale of the effects of the late Mr Joseph Maas, on Wednesday, an eight day clock, once belonging to Isaac Walton, was sold for sixty-seven and a half guineas. The case of the clock was a handsome one, of antique inlaid workmanship, and was made in 1641 by John Roberts, of Ruabon, for the author of "The Compleat Angler."

The Committee of the Aberdare Eisteddfod of 1885 have sent to the National Eisteddfod Association some of the successful compositions, in order that the transactions of the Eisteddfod may be published. The translations of the *Alcestis*, for which Lord Bute gave a prize, are in the press. They will be issued from the Clarendon press at Oxford, with the text in the original Greek.

A correspondent of a contemporary writes from India:—"It will interest your readers to know of an astonishing feat recently performed by General Hugh Rowlands, V.C., C.B., commanding the Bangalore Division of the Madras Army. He has walked from Mysore to Bangalore, upwards of 80 miles, and performed the task in two days. Mysore being on a plateau about 2,000 feet above sea level, the walk was not so fatiguing as it would have been if it had been made on the plains, say in the neighbourhood of Madras or Trichinopoly; but still the Kingdom of Mysore is tropical and the sun exerts great power there, as everywhere else in India."

Among the recipients of outdoor relief in the Union of Lampeter (says the *Cambrian News*) is Mrs Mary Davies, Llethr, who is over 103 years of age. She is the daughter of Mr Charles Jones, and was born at Gwngodfawr, in the parish of Llanddewi-brefi, in May, 1783. When she was forty-nine years of age she married Mr Thos. Davies, Blaenant, in the neighbouring parish of Llancwrwys, one of the largest farms on the Rhosybedw Estate, in which parish she has resided over half a century. Her husband is dead, and she now lives with her youngest step-daughter, who is sixty-two years old and occupies Llethr, a farm belonging to Mr William Jones, Glandenys, mayor of Lampeter.

At Ruthin Town Council, after the election of Mayor, while the members were taking refreshments, Alderman E. Roberts (says the *Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald*) related several anecdotes of by-gone days, remarking that the Municipal Charter granted to Ruthin was now 604 years old, it having been granted by King Edward I., in 1282. Two goblets were presented to the Corporation in 1632 by Bishop Goodman, and the names of the two then presiding aldermen, viz., Edward and Rice Jones, were engraved thereon. It appeared, however, from the corporation records, that Alderman Rice Jones committed a forgery, and afterwards a murder, for which, he was tried, convicted, and hung. The corporation thinking that he had not by his various exploits added to their dignity ordered that his name be erased. Some amusement was caused by the Town Clerk reading an extract from a resolution passed a few hundred years ago, ordering that the surveyor's salary should be increased to the "sum of four pence weekly." The Mayor said that in a work published in 1817 the writer stated that one of the characteristics of Ruthin was the number of wild pigs that were allowed to run about.

The recently elected Mayor of Ruthin, Colonel Cornwallis West, M.P., attended morning service in state on Sunday week. The Town Hall was the rendezvous and the procession was composed of the Volunteer Band, an honorary escort consisting of the Volunteer Company under Captain Ellis, the local police under Inspector Jones, the Fire Brigade under Captain Arthur Davies, the Mayor in his official robes, the ex-mayor Mr John Jones, and the aldermen and councillors. At the entrance to the church, the Volunteers formed lines up which the Mayor and Corporation marched. The preacher was the Rev John Williams and he adopted as his text Galatians vi, 2. After service the procession was re-formed and on returning to the Town Hall, the Mayor thanked those who had accompanied him to church and hoped the coming year would be a prosperous one. The loving cup was then passed round. The procession was witnessed by several thousands of people.

We regret to record the death of the Rev. John Jones of Rhosllanerchrugog, a minister well-known and esteemed among the Calvinistic Methodists of North Wales. Mr Jones died on Wednesday.

The death is announced of Dr Arthur Wynn Williams, at the age of sixty-seven. Dr Williams was admitted a member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1843. He took the degree of M.D. at St. Andrews in 1847. He was a fellow of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, and held for some time the post of physician to the Carnarvonshire and Anglesey Infirmary. After practising at Carnarvon he removed to London. He was a frequent contributor of professional and scientific papers to the medical journals. He was also the author of "King Arthur's Well, a Chalybeate Spring at Llandeiniolen, in Carnarvonshire, with Directions for its Use"; and of a work of a more important character—namely, "A Description of British and Druidical Remains in the Neighbourhood of Carnarvon."

DEATH OF MR E. CRANE.—Mr Edward Crane, late of Forton, died at Shrawardine, on Monday, November 15, after an illness of about six months duration. Mr Crane was one of the originators of the famous breed of Shropshire sheep, and at the Agricultural Shows of the Royal Society he gained many prizes with his selections from his noted flock at Forton. The remains of the deceased were interred at Shrawardine on Thursday, the officiating clergyman being the Rev P. Dalton.

ECCLIASTICAL APPOINTMENT.—The Rev William Williams, B.A., vicar of Llanafan-y-Trawscoed, Cardiganshire. Patron, Miss Rosalie Caroline Chichester, Arington Court, near Barnstaple.

RE-OPENING OF WEM PARISH CHURCH.

After extensive alterations the Parish Church was reopened and consecrated on Wednesday. The Church was said to be the ugliest and worst ventilated ecclesiastical building in the diocese, and the improvements made are very effective. A flat sprawling roof, wide pointed windows, destitute of tracery, huge galleries, a shallow recess, opening into the church, with a square proscenium, like a theatre, and surmounted by a small plaster cast of the Royal arms; the organ far away at the west end, the east window almost resting on the altar, no accommodation for a choir, and the font hidden away in an obscure corner under the gallery. The first consideration was naturally to improve the state of affairs in the nave, and a large amount of cubical space was added to the building by removing the plaster ceiling and throwing the space above into the church, and by judiciously casing the

beams, and adding curved ribs and tracery, and panelling over the rafters, a very striking and noble effect has been gained. The windows, also, have been filled with a very simple but effective form of tracery, divided by a transom, and the walls toned with quiet tones of green in two shades, with bands and friezes of buff, with stencilled red scrolls and ornaments; the fronts of the galleries having colour also sparingly introduced. The undersides of these have the plaster ceilings decorated in tones of vellum and grey, with red lines forming geometrical patterns, the iron columns supporting them being Pompeian red, with cream and gold and lines of bright ornamentation. The principal alteration in the interior is the addition of a new memorial chancel, the gift of the rector, opening into the nave by a lofty moulded arch and two side arches, leading respectively to the north and south aisles, and another arch opening into an apse. The east window has been raised, and beneath it has been placed a reredos of Caen stone, statuary marble and alabaster. The roof over the chancel and apse is vaulted, and is richly decorated in gold and colours. The fittings of the chancel are of oak, with canopied stalls, and the floor is laid with a fine marble mosaic, representing the parable of the sower. The steps are of polished red marble, and the altar space is laid with pure statuary marble. The screen, dividing nave from chancel, is of the choicest alabaster, surmounted by a capping of rosso antico. The seed bringing forth good fruit forms the pattern of the chancel floor. The architect was Mr G. H. Birch, F.S.A., of London, and the contractor, Mr Henry Tommy, of Wem. The Duke of Cleveland, patron of the living, subscribed £1,000 towards the restoration fund. The gifts have been very numerous and costly. Sir William Honyman has given the richly jewelled and enamelled altar cross; the rector, the candlesticks; a parishioner, six other candlesticks; Mrs Russell, the magnificent white brocaded silk frontal; the churchwardens, two volumes of the Bible for the brass lectern; the Prayer-books and the altar-book were given by the family of the late Mr Seacombe in memory of him; the red velvet frontal, powdered with golden pomegranates, and the chalice, veil, and burse, and some old point lace for the linen were given by the architect; and two richly embroidered banners—one of the cross of St. Chad, the arms of the see of Lichfield, the other a banner with figures of SS. Peter and Paul, worked in crimson velvet and coloured silk, on a white silk ground, and a processional cross in repoussé work, and ebony staff, were also gifts from friends. Holy Communion was celebrated early in the morning, and the opening ceremony took place at eleven, the Bishop of Lichfield officiating.

DECEMBER 1, 1886.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY OLD CHURCHYARD.—In this burying ground near the Tower door, close to the South porch, is an old gravestone with this inscription—

JOHN EDW
ARDS XXX
AC 1631

The inscription is in raised letters, and is of a character quite unique here. The stone is much neglected, and will in a few years, if left in its present situation, suffer irretrievable damage from people who are constantly walking upon it. It deserves to be preserved, and it is

to be hoped that, now the attention of local antiquaries is drawn to it, some steps may be taken to preserve it.

While in the Churchyard I may draw attention to the Tower, and recommend the authorities to cut the ivy tree, which is evidently doing much damage on the west side, just below the Bell Room floor. Hooss.

LAZY-TONGS AT CLYNNOG.—Some time ago, I believe, this ancient instrument was not shown to visitors at Clynnog Church. At least, the *Gossiping Guide* asks "where it is now." Your readers may like to know that the lazy-tongs are still in existence, and are now shown to visitors. W. O.

BANGOR DIOCESE.—Contributions by the Clergy thereof to the War in Flanders *Temp.* 38 Elizth. At Westminster—Press 8. Shelf 4. Parcel 73. Portion of an account of the Collection of a Contribution from the Clergy of Bangor Diocese to aid the Queen with troops for Flanders. (On the back of the document is a Form or Scheme for auditing the accounts of the various farmers of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.)—His. MSS. Com. Report 4, app. p. 196. Z.

THE PRACTICE OF PIETY.—1676—Feby. 17—A letter to the Earl of Carbery by John Barlow, W. Bryan, Ferdinando Herbert, Walter Jones, Ar: Herbert, Hen: Proger, Thomas Prichard and John Guillim—that Thomas Dawkes, who has lately printed the *Practice of Piety* (in Welch), may be King's Printer for the British language: They say there are few books in the language, which is prejudicial to His Majesty's subjects in Wales.—MSS. of the Marquis of Bath, His. MSS. Com. Report 4, app. p. 236. P.

THE WELSH WARS, TEMP. HENRY IV.—At Westminster, among the MSS. (Press 8, shelf 4, parcel 71), No. 3, is an Indenture between Henry IV. and his son, the Prince of Wales, covenanting that the Prince should serve him in his Welsh Wars for half a year with 600 men at arms and 1,800 archers. No. 21 in the same parcel seems to be a copy of the same indenture or the counterpart; this gives the date 12 May, 8 Hen. IV. The agreement stipulated that the Prince should commence on the 29th May then next, and that each man at arms should be paid 12d. per day, and each archer 6d. Z.

ANCIENT FUNERALS (May 26, 1886).—THE FUNERAL OF A LADY.—*Ex Harl.* 2129, fo. 92, *Dorso* (*Pencil number*).—The order of, and mourners in black, at the Lady Aston funeral, from Aston Hall to Aston Chappell, 1635:—

no poore, but the servants and tenants in livery clokes 2 & 2

Tho. Wollett, a black cloke carrying a penon of her owne cotes

Mr Walton bearinge a penon of his & her cotes impaled
The précher Mr Mortyn in black assisted by other prechers

The corpes carried by Kts. and gents of his blood

Mrs Allen & Mrs Browne

Mrs Anne Allen & Mrs Mainwaringe

Diuers ladies in black

Sr Thomas Aston alone

Mr Rich. Allen, Sr Tho. Aston Sonne

Mr Browne, Mr Rich. Allen Sonne

gentlemen not in black.

PEARMAN.

SIR ORLANDO BRIDGEMAN.—Lord Keeper Sir Orlando Bridgeman, the ancestor of the Earls of Bradford, lies buried in the chancel of Teddington Church, and the following curious statement regarding his shrine was published some years ago:—"In the year 1832 certain repairs (not 'restorations') were being made in the chancel; the workmen accidentally struck into the Bridgeman vault, and a brick fell on Sir Orlando's coffin-lid, and broke it partly open. Dr. James Borland, a distinguished Inspector General of Army Hospitals, was then the owner of Bridgeman House, and was churchwarden of Teddington parish. He at once came to the church, and seeing, through the fracture, that the corpse had been embalmed, he had the coffin-lid reverently taken off, and sent a message to the then Lord Bradford (the father of the present Earl), whom he knew. Lord Bradford drove straight down from London to Teddington, and looked upon the face of his ancestor, who had been dead a hundred and fifty-eight years, and who lay there in his habit as he lived, with pointed beard and flowing hair, and complexion as fresh, almost, as in life. Beside him lay his wife, Dame Dorothy; but she, poor thing, was a skeleton—for she was only a second wife, and she had not been embalmed. Then the coffin-lid was duly put on again and repaired, the vault was bricked up, and I think it has not been since disturbed."—I have a very good old steel portrait of Sir Orlando in my possession. E. P.

Brecknock.

QUERIES.

ROYAL JUBILEES.—Now that we are about to celebrate the Jubilee of Queen Victoria, can anyone tell us how the Jubilee of her Majesty's grandfather, George III., was celebrated at Oswestry? BONWM.

COLONEL DORMER'S REGIMENT OF FOOT.—This regiment was, I am led to believe, of Welsh origin, and was stationed in Wales in 1711. Is there any information extant regarding its early history? What is its present designation? TUTA QUIA DIFFIDENS.

North America.

DAVID ROBERTS, CLERK OF ST. MARY'S, ABCHURCH.—There is an old will at Somerset House (41 Wood 1611), of David Roberts, Clerke of St. Mary's, Abchurch, London, who left some bequests to St. Andrew's by the Wardrobe, London, where he was Rector, 1591–1608; and also to the church of Danvrothen (Llanvrothen?), Merioneth, where he was born, *a chalice*. He was prebendary of Trallan in the Collegiate Church of Brecon, and also had dispensation from Archbishop to hold St. Andrew's Wardrobe and the Rectory of Chedington, Bucks (Diocese of Lincoln), 24 Dec., 1595. Who or of what family was he—and is the *chalice* now at Llanvrothen? Z.

NEW LIGHTS.—The Note on the Introduction of Gas (Nov. 17, 1886) leads me to ask when lucifer matches came into common use in Shropshire and Wales. I remember striking lights with one of the old tinder-and-flints, but I think it was only "for fun" as a boy. And what was the most common method of lighting houses among the middle classes in this part of the country before gas was introduced. Was gas, by the

way, ever used in these parts before it was laid on from a central reservoir? In some places boxes of gas (renewed at intervals, of course) were screwed under the table and conducted by a pipe to the gaselier above. A man to whom I was speaking the other day said he remembered these boxes in use in his father's house.

W.O.

REPLIES.

A TREATISE CONCERNING THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL IN WALES (Nov. 24, 1886).—This "Treatise" was written by John Penry, a native of Llangamarch, Breconshire, of hallowed memory to Welsh Nonconformists. For publishing this and other works, and his benevolent efforts generally on behalf of his fellow-countrymen, he was imprisoned, bitterly persecuted, and eventually beheaded in the year 1593. For an extended account of the author and his other works, I would refer ZETA to Rees's *Nonconformity in Wales* pp. 20-29; or, if a Welshman, to *Cymru*, gan y Parch. O. Jones. Extracts from this scarce pamphlet would, I presume, be interesting. T.H.J.

[Two or three extracts will be given.—Ed.]

LORD PRESIDENT OF THE PRINCIPALITY (Nov. 17, 1886).—In reply to your correspondent MYLLIN, I may say in one of the Lansdowne MSS. at the British Museum there is some reference to the subject matter of his query. The expression "Lord President of the Principality" is not quite accurate; it should be "President of the Prince's Council in the Marches of Wales." It is not very clear how or when the Council of the Marches was first established; but there is an order of the Council, dated 10 April, 1478, signed by John Alcock, successively Bishop of Rochester, Worcester, and Ely, as President of the Council, in a matter relating to Shrewsbury. The Bishop of Lincoln, William Smith, was appointed to the office of Lord President by Henry VII. in the 17th year of his reign, and continued to hold it for the life of that King, and during the first four years of the reign of Henry VIII. In Llywyd's *History of Wales*, Edition 1584, p. 392, he is called the *first* Lord President that is named in the records of the Court. This Prelate founded Brasenose College, Oxford, and on his portrait in the College is inscribed "Premus Wallice Prese's." The proceedings in the Court of the Marches seem to have been controlled by the Government in London, for in Lansdowne MSS., No. 155, fol. 2, 196, there is a copy of "Instructions (Elizabeth 16, anno. 1574) for the Lord President of the Council." It is printed at length in an appendix to the *History of Ludlow and the Lords Marchers*, by the Hon. R. H. Clive, a perusal of which would, I think, answer the queries in your correspondent's communication to *Bye-Gones*. The document is too lengthy to quote in the form of a reply; but it contains matter that would interest your readers. As to Richard Vaughan, Earl of Carberry, he was appointed to the office on the restoration of Charles II. as a reward for his adherence to the Royal cause, having been previously created by Charles I. an English Peer by the title of Baron Vaughan of Emlyn. He died in 1713, when the Barony became extinct. During the Civil War period the Court of the Marches lay dormant, and the term "revived" in

MYLLIN's query refers to the resumption of business on the ascension of Charles II. to the throne. The Court of the Marches, and with it the office of President, were abolished in 1689.

PEARMAN.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr R. Lloyd James, the registrar of Bangor diocese, died on Friday. Mr James was at one time town clerk of Beaumaris.

A fine specimen of the angler or devil fish has recently been taken in the river Dee near Flint. It was a little over three feet in length, and had immense jaws and shark-like teeth. It is to be exhibited in the Grosvenor Museum.

Hopton Castle, Shropshire, has just changed hands, having been bought by the trustees of Sir Edward Ripley. The castle was bestowed by King Henry II. in the 12th century on Walter de Clifford, and in 1286 it came into possession of Roger, Lord Mortimer of Chirk. During the civil war of the 17th century it was held by the Royalists against repeated attacks of the Cromwellian forces; but its defenders were compelled to surrender and most of the garrison were put to the sword. The governor, one Samuel Moor, was confined as a prisoner in the dungeons of Ludlow Castle.

The Rev Evan Evans, otherwise known throughout Wales as "Evans, Nantyglo," recently died at the house of his daughter in Arkansas, United States, at the age of 83. He had been a prominent figure in Welsh public life for more than half a century, and only a few months ago buried his wife, after a union extending over 56 years. He was the author of a number of books and two volumes of Welsh sermons. He was also warmly attached to the Sunday School and Temperance movements in South Wales. At the time of his death he was engaged in writing "Reminiscences of Eighty Years' Changes in Welsh Life." He leaves three children.

We have received the first Collection of the *Transactions of the Liverpool Welsh National Society*, which has its head quarters at 46, Beaumont-street, and, we are glad to learn, is flourishing financially. The number of members exceeds 200 (but ought to be much larger), the list of vice-presidents includes several prominent men and one man of genius, Mr Matthew Arnold, and altogether the Society seems to have started well. The Transactions include a paper on "Salesbury's Translation of the New Testament," by Principal Edwards, as well as an Inaugural Address by Mr Lewis Morris, addresses on "Celtic Languages and Literature" by Dr Kuno Meyer and "Welsh Music" by Mr John Thomas, and two Welsh contributions. We earnestly trust that the Committee will set up and maintain a high standard for their papers and addresses. Upon this depends in a large degree the value of the new Society. If they will not sink below the excellent address recently delivered by Principal Reichel they will do well!

In a second goodly volume of the *Gentleman's Magazine Library* (Elliot Stock) the reprint of the archaeological papers on British and Anglo-Saxon subjects is concluded. In an Introduction, Mr Gomme takes stock of what has already been recorded of Stones and Stone Circles, which occupy an important place in the present volume. Stonehenge, almost as a matter of course, comes in for a large share of attention, and it is interesting to observe how confident the writers were that it was a temple, a belief which passed by a natural process of evolution into Sir John Colt Hoare's opinion that it was to the Britons what Mecca is to the Mohammedans. But, whatever theories may be

held as to circles and cromlechs, it is beyond a doubt that stones, for some purpose or other, played an important part in the customs of our remote predecessors, and they form a very interesting study, upon which we cannot have too much information. In this volume the observations of many writers at various periods are conveniently collected and arranged, not on ancient stones only but on antiquities of many kinds both of the British Period and of "Anglo-Saxon" times. The contributions from Wales are fewer than we should have expected, but here is one which shows how much ignorance prevailed eighty years ago on such now familiar subjects as cistvaens, and how strangely Englishmen were then influenced by the sight of mountains—

DRUID ALTAR NEAR BALA.

During the months of July and August last, I made an excursion into the principality of North Wales. It is inexpressible the pleasure which I felt in surveying the bold features of that country, and in wandering through many a sweet valley which separate the mountains that threaten to overwhelm them every moment. As I passed along from Llangollen to Barmouth, I received much civility and kindness from the Ancient Britons, and particularly from the Rev John Lloyd, of Paley, near Bala, whose hospitality and attention to me demand my warmest acknowledgment.

It is not generally known (at least I have not seen it mentioned by any of our Welsh tourists) that there is near this gentleman's mansion house a Druidical altar, in a very perfect state. This altar is situated in a wood, surrounded with many a fine oak. It is unnecessary to observe here, that this is invariably the situation which the Druids chose for their bloody altars.

Mr Lloyd told me a curious anecdote of a woman who used to take up her abode under this altar, and who from thence, in the night time, made visits to her neighbours in order to procure food for her daily sustenance. These visits, you will understand, were of a predatory nature, but confined solely to food. She lived there many years undisturbed in her Druidical habitation.

In a field adjoining to the above-mentioned wood is a stone chest, placed about 1½ foot below the surface of the ground. The side stones are about 2 yards in length, and the heads nearly one. Now, Mr Urban, I should be much obliged to any of your learned correspondents, if they can inform me whether these sort of chests are frequently to be met with in this kingdom, and what could be their original use. By giving this a corner in your useful miscellany you will greatly oblige

A NORTHERN WANDERER.

Is this "Druidical altar in a very perfect state" still to be seen? Several pages are devoted to Offa's Dyke; and Mr O. Cockayne, in 1866, contributed a paper on "The Place of St. Oswald's Death," which has recently excited a good deal of controversy. Mr Cockayne quotes a passage from "Ælfric's Life of St. Oswald," and adds that "Smith in his 'Beda' sufficiently identifies Winwick with Maserfield." He continues to say that Penda would obviously carry Oswald's head as a trophy into Wales, and "no wonder he set it up at Oswald's tree or stake, now Oswestry, not far whence, says Smith, White Church (Whitchurch) was founded in the Saint's honour." This is putting the cart before the horse with a vengeance! And Smith must have been almost on the look out for blunders, when he went as far astray as Whitchurch for "Blancminster," one of the names of Oswestry Church. Antiquaries have good reason to thank editor and publisher for this useful volume.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES, ABERYSTWYTH.—The following coins have been recently presented to the Museum of the College:—A gold five franc piece of the late French Empire, presented by Mrs Jones, Ael-y-Bryn, Dyffryn, Merionethshire; a large silver coin of Honoratus II., Duke of Valencia, date 1649, presented by Mr Robert Jones, Horeb Chapel House, Dyffryn; a hammered shilling of Queen Elizabeth, with the arms traversed by the thin cross, with the old motto "Posui Deum Adjutorem

meum," presented by Mr W. G. Evans, Dyffryn; and a half-crown piece of Charles II., presented by Mr R. J. Williams, Post Office, Dyffryn. This coin is of the first issue of Charles II.

DECEMBER 8, 1886.

NOTES.

THE PEACE OF 1814.—OLD INHABITANTS OF OSWESTRY.—In the report of the meeting of the Powys-land Club in the *Oswestry Advertiser* of November 3rd, I find a reference by my friend Mr Howell, to a card issued in Welshpool in connection with the celebration of Peace in the year 1814. Although I was then only about 5 years old, I well remember the Procession of the Trades of Oswestry in celebration of that event, one item in which rivetted my attention, and has remained fixed in my memory to this day. I was carried on the shoulder of a Mr John Henry Marshall, who was, or had been, a journeyman printer in the employ of my father. The Printers Devil was represented by a sweep with his sooty face and habiliments, who had a pair of horns on his head. This was the only sight that really laid hold of me, except in a hazy general way. Whether Mr Marshall was at this time resident in Oswestry, or only on a visit some time after leaving, is not quite clear, but that does not alter the fact I have narrated. As reference to old inhabitants of Oswestry is sometimes inserted in *Bye-Gones*, I may say that Mr Marshall was a most worthy member of the Baptist Church in this town, and when he left Oswestry after a residence of about a year, he went to reside in Aylesbury, where, until his retirement through age, he carried on the business of a printer and bookseller. He was a leading member of the Baptist Church in Aylesbury until his death at the age of 86 years in July 1874. His obituary in the *Bucks Advertiser* and *Aylesbury News* is headed "The oldest inhabitant," and it says "For the lengthened period of 60 years he was actively engaged in the work both of the Church and Sunday School, during the whole of which time he was never either absent from duty, or late in commencing his engagements, unless prevented from attending, either by illness or absence from home. He was for many years a total abstainer, and his extremely temperate habits, added to a naturally vigorous constitution, secured for him almost unbroken health until within a few weeks of his end. He attended public worship on Sunday, June 21st, for the last time, that day being the 64th anniversary of his coming to the town, and he was out walking as lately as Saturday last." Mr Marshall was brother of Mr Matthew Marshall, whose signature was for so many years attached to the Bank of England notes as cashier, and whose son, Mr. Thomas Marshall, has for 22 years been secretary and sole manager of "The Hearts of Oak Benefit Society," London, one of the largest benefit societies in the kingdom. Mr Thos. Marshall writes to say that his father was a total abstainer in principle to the end of his days, but for some months at the close of life, from inability to assimilate food, he was compelled to take a little stimulant occasionally.

THOS. MINSHALL.

Castle View, Oswestry.

QUERIES.

OLD RHYME.—Can any correspondent in your district say what year is ascribed to these old proverbial lines?

Hops and turkeys, carp and beer,
Came into England all in a year.

OMEGA.

REPLIES.

HARL. MS. 6870: HUGH THOMAS'S MSS. (Nov. 24, 1886).—In reply to your correspondent, "T. Q. D.," who though residing so far away from the "old country," still retains an interest in her ancient MSS., I, though unable to give the lengthy answer that would be necessary if I gave the names of all whose pedigrees are dealt with in the three MSS., will try to give him and other readers of *Bye-Gones* some idea as to what the MSS. contain. In the first place there are three volumes in the Harleian Library at the British Museum, called Hugh Thomas's MSS., Nos. 6823, 6831, and 6870 named above. 6831 is the most important of the three. It is folio in size, and contains 500 folios, or 1,000 pages. 6823 is octavo containing 167 folios; 6870 is also octavo containing 196 folios. The three may be considered as parts of one plan. Hugh Thomas was a herald painter, residing at Brecon, and having become acquainted with E. Lhuyd, the celebrated antiquary, he appears to have replied to certain queries which Lhuyd had sent to him, and probably to others in Wales, and thus seems to have been recognized by Lhuyd as an able herald and genealogist, as the following title page of MS. 6831 in Lhuyd's handwriting (as I judge) will show. It is probable that to him Hugh Thomas was indebted for the idea of the work which he proposed, but failed to carry out:—

A GENEALOGICAL HISTORY OF THE ANTIENT NOBILITY AND GENTRY OF ALL WALES,

And of several families descended thence, now living in England; to the Union of England and Wales, in the reign of King Henry the 8th, and something later, continued to such of the Present Nobility and Gentry as shall contribute towards the author's expenses for five years, or otherwise encourage the same, in three parts:—

First—Of such as are of the Ancient British Race.
Second—Of such Families as seated themselves in Wales by Conquest.

Third—Of such Families as seated themselves in Wales since the

Conquest thereof.

From authentick Records, Inscriptions on Grave-stones, Collections, and Visitations to all the Churches and places of Note in Wales and the neighbouring parts.

Adorned with Copper Plates of the Arms, Monuments, Grave-stones and Glass-windows of the Principal Benefactors to this Worke.

Nothing of this nature being ever yet published.

By Hugh Thomas.

"We whose names are hereunto subscribed doe judg Mr Hugh Thomas capable of this undertaking, and doe very well approve the designe." Hum. Lhuyd.

Lhuyd's is the only signature, and is written, leaving space for half-a-dozen other names above it.

The design is explicitly defined in the foregoing title page. The collection of MSS., bound together in Vol. 6881, comprises replies from many persons to whom Thomas had either written or personally applied. In addition to these there are many letters from correspondents, and a miscellaneous compilation of Notes by Thomas. The present Volume is made up of leaves from other books of various sized pages, scraps of paper with bits of genealogical information written on them, same on backs of letters, also on backs of other persons' compilations. So your correspondent will perceive it is a very heterogeneous collection. I noticed in scanning the folios three or four communications in Lhuysd's handwriting (which I will transcribe for *Bye-Gones*.) Nearly all the letters are written on foolscap; many are addressed to Thomas at different places in London, which he seems to have frequently visited. The following will give some idea of the variety of subjects:—

Folios 1, 2. English *Coats*.

3. A letter, no address, no signature, on a business matter.

4, 5, 6. A Pedigree of the Stafford Family, in the form of a letter, brought down to Henry, created Earl of Stafford 5 Oct., 4 Jas. II. ("living now 1688,") without issue.

7, 8. Curious account of the origin of Llynssavathan (a large lake near Talylyn Station on the Mid Wales Railway.)

9, 10. Some account of Brecknock Town and Parish.

12. Translation of Charter granted by Thomas de Aven to Margam Abbey, 10 Feby., 1349.

13. A Genealogical Compilation commencing at "Ludd." There are many others of this "heroic" character; one I noticed went up to nearly 4000 years before the Christian era began.

14. Copy of the account of Thomas Vaughan, High Collector of the county of Brecknock, of the assessments for 9 months, beginning 24 June, 1647, ending 25th March following, at £103 6 2* *per mensem*, total £930 0 0.

15, 16, 17. Short notes of pedigrees of several families. The back of folio 15 is written over with similar material. The back of 17 has an account of some of Bernard Newmarch's exploits.

18. Pedigrees.

19, 20. Arms of various noble families (86.)

20. "Brecknockshire Worthies" both native and others, and short genealogical sketches. On this folio there are 86 separate families dealt with.

23. A short letter relating to a business matter; on the inside, descents from

24—26. Brutus, ending with Meredith ap Owen, king of Cardigan, 1235.

Taken as a whole I should consider the bulk of the contents, if classified, would be found to relate to South Wales, though I observed some pedigrees that are connected with your district, and might be considered of interest to the families concerned. I will mention one or two.

Price of Rhiwlas, down to William Price who married Mary, daughter of the Lord Viscount Hereford (with the Quarterings in trick). Blaney of Malienydd (Radnorshire), with references to the Montgomeryshire Blayneys, the Meiricks of Ucheldre, co. Merioneth, Wynns of Garthmalo, co. Merioneth, Trevor of Brynkinalt, and lastly the Herbert family. This is in considerable de-

tail, and exhibits the descent of the first Herbert, who came to Aberystwyth, and many of the collateral branches later, that have not been treated by Montgomeryshire antiquaries in such detail as they appear in this MS.

The other two MSS., 6,823 and 6,870, are now in quarto size; they are composed of leaves that originally were in an 8vo book, some in strips an inch and a half wide, and two inches in length. The character of the contents is similar to the large volume, if anything more miscellaneous. There are some neat sketches of Arms in trick in these, and several sheets of calculations of *Horoscopes* in the folio volume.

These are my impressions after a very hurried examination of the MSS. Possibly, nay probably, a more careful scrutiny would necessitate a modification of them.

PEARMAN.

[Our correspondent, "T.Q.D.," will see that the great length of the MSS. precludes us from publishing them in *Bye-Gones* entire.—ED.]

CURRENT NOTES.

The living of Erryrys, near Mold, has been conferred upon the Rev. R. Owen, incumbent of Bryn Eglwys. The Bishop of St. Asaph is the patron.

The passenger service through the Severn Tunnel started on Wednesday morning, the first train being despatched at 6.15 from Bristol. Nine minutes twenty-five seconds were occupied in passing through the tunnel.

Under the title *Book Prices Current*, Mr Elliot Stock is about to issue a monthly record of the prices realized at auction (in town and country) for rare books. The list will give the titles of the books, their prices, purchasers, and the date of the sale.

"Folk-lore of Yule in the Shetland Isles" is one of the December papers of the *Leisure Hour*, from which we learn that "Thomasmas e'en" is or was supposed to be particularly holy; no work was done after day-set and no amusements were allowed. Was any such custom ever known in Shropshire, where, on the following day (St. Thomas's) doles of wheat were given to the poor?

In "Christmas in Chios," in the *Cornhill* for December, we read that "it is customary on the day before Christmas for children to go round to the houses of the village early and collect what is called the 'luck of Christ,' that is to say walnuts, almonds, figs, raisins, and the like," reminding us of the souling customs mentioned in Miss Burne's "Shropshire Folk-Lore." In Shropshire, and other parts of England, it is on All Souls' day that the children go from house to house asking for cakes, broken victuals, ale, apples or money.

The death is announced, at Somerford Booths Hall, Congleton, in the sixty-eighth year of his age, of Mr Clement Swetenham, a former well-known Cheshire county magistrate, and brother of Mr Edmund Swetenham, Q.C., M.P. Mr Swetenham, who was born at Somerford Booths in 1819, was educated at Rugby, under Dr Arnold, and afterwards proceeded to Sandhurst. He entered the army in 1837, and retired in 1849. In 1860 he served the office of High Sheriff for Cheshire, and had been some years captain in the Cheshire militia. In politics Mr Swetenham was a moderate Conservative, and at times took a prominent part in the political contests in his native county.

* This ought to be 8d to fit the total.

FLINTSHIRE RATING APPEALS.

At the County Hall, Mold, the Rating Committee of Quarter Sessions sat recently to hear appeals against the new basis for county rating. The justices present were J. Scott Bankes, Edward Thompson, and Wm. Thom, Esqrs., together with Mr T. T. Kelly, clerk. Among those who appeared in support of appeals were the following:—Mr Wynne (Chairman of the Rhyl Commissioners), Mr Rowlands (secretary), Mr P. Mostyn Williams, Mr Grimsley (clerk to the St. Asaph Guardians), Mr Ferguson, St. Asaph, Mr Rigby (clerk to the Broughton Guardians), Mr Probert and Mr Evans, Higher Kinnerton, Mr Davies, Marford and Hoseley, Mr Griffiths and Mr Robert Davies, Nerquis. Mr Scott Bankes promised, on behalf of the Committee, that the facts adduced would be carefully considered.

The following are extracts from the return of the new and old basis for the County Rate:—

Courts.	Parishes and Townships contributing to the County Rate.	Basis or Standard upon which the County Rate is now assessed.	Basis or Standard as revised by the Committee, & upon which it is proposed to assess the County Rate in future.
		£	£
Wrexham	Bangor	4082	4078
	Erbistock	628	633
	Worthenbury	6612	5729
	Threapwood	350	362
		11672	17802
Ellesmere	Bettisfield	7386	3510
	Bronington	4827	5183
	Hammer	3669	8735
	Halghton	3458	3456
	Overton	8351	8495
	Penley	2933	2893
	Tybroughton	1891	1907
	Willington	306	3121
		31625	32230
Whitchurch	Iscoed	4818	4613

The Late T. H. Sandford, Esq., of Sandford Hall.

We regret to record the death on Friday, Nov. 26, of Mr Thomas Hugh Sandford of Sandford Hall, near Whitchurch. Mr Sandford had been suffering for two or three years from cancer, for which he had been treated by Sir James Paget and other eminent medical men, as well as by his local medical attendant, Dr Groom of Whitchurch. Of course the nature of the disease left no hope of recovery, and at times Mr Sandford suffered acutely, but he bore his pain with great fortitude, and a few hours before his death he was conversing cheerfully with those who were about him. He passed quietly away at eleven o'clock on Friday night, after a well-spent life, much of which had been devoted to the service of the public. Mr Sandford was the eldest son of the late Thomas Hugh Sandford, Esq., of Sandford, by Eliza Ann, daughter of Thomas Kirkpatrick, Esq., of Whitchurch, and was born in 1820, five years after which his father died, and he became the possessor of the estate. He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and was married, first in 1849, to Alexina, daughter of the Hon. Chas. Lind. ay. This lady

died in 1851, and in 1856 Mr Sandford married Sarah, daughter of William Halsted Poole, Esq., of Terrick Hall, near Whitchurch, on which occasion there were extensive public rejoicings in the neighbourhood of Terrick Hall and Sandford. Mr Sandford occupied various public positions and devoted himself with great assiduity to the duties which he was called upon to perform. In 1859 he succeeded his father-in-law, Captain Poole, as chairman of the Whitchurch Bench of magistrates, for which post he was well fitted by having been trained for the Bar. He was remarkable for the minute attention which he gave to the cases that came before him, and for the accuracy of his decisions, none of which, we believe, were ever appealed against. He attended Petty Sessions with great regularity, and often rode or drove or walked (he was a great walker) to Whitchurch from Sandford to see if there was any police business calling for attention. In 1866 he filled the office of High Sheriff of Shropshire, and he was also a magistrate for the adjoining county of Chester. For some years Mr Sandford commanded the Whitchurch or Pree's troop (which has been disbanded) of the Shropshire Yeomanry Cavalry, and no one who was acquainted with the deceased gentleman will be surprised to hear that he was greatly beloved by his men. Mr Sandford was a Liberal in politics, and a devout member of the Church of England, whose institutions he supported with great liberality, a liberality which was also extended to movements of a more general character, and to the relief of the poor amongst his neighbours, who always found in him a constant and sympathetic friend. Indeed there were few men in the county more respected and esteemed amongst all classes of the community, and it is emphatically said of Mr Sandford in the neighbourhood where he lived, and where he was well known, that he was a good man. His tenants often experienced his generosity, especially during the recent agricultural depression, when he generously studied their difficulties and granted them remissions of rent, and his advice was in constant request not only by those who lived on his estate, but by all the country round. The representative of an old and honoured Shropshire family, he bore himself so as to bring fresh honour to the family name, and fresh popularity to the class to which he belonged.

On Wednesday afternoon the remains were placed in the family vault within the quaint old parish church at Pree's. In compliance with the express wish of the deceased the preparations for the funeral, which were entrusted to Mr W. Pearson of Whitchurch, were of the simplest character, and were carried out with as little ceremony as possible. He expressed the wish that his body might be conveyed to its last resting place upon the parish hand hearse, and that the coffin might be covered with the blue Ensign of the Fleet. Instead, therefore, of the customary hearse being employed, the humble parish vehicle was substituted, and the coffin, with the colour spread across the lid, was drawn by eight or ten bearers from Sandford Hall to the church, a distance of two miles. Preceding the body were the undertaker and deceased's butler (Mr Hannaford), and immediately behind followed the chief mourners, including Sir Francis Sandford, K.C.B., Lady Sandford, Mr Poole, Mr Lindsay, and Colonel Cooke (brothers-in-law of the deceased), Mr Bryan Cooke (nephew), and Mr Starkie. Following these were several carriages, which fell in at intervals along the route, and which were mainly unoccupied. A large number of friends, including many of the county gentry, most of whom walked, came next, and were followed by the tenantry and the children belonging to the Lower Heath Schools, who brought up the rear. In this order the procession wended its way from the Hall to the

church, which was reached at one o'clock, being met at the entrance by the Vicar of Prees (the Rev E. Addenbrooke) and the Rev Francis Egerton. As the followers entered the building the little edifice became gradually filled, and was ultimately crowded, the number of those in the procession being considerably augmented by inhabitants of the surrounding districts, who were desirous of paying their last tribute of respect to one who had endeared himself in the hearts of all. Besides the mourners, among those present were:—Lord Combermere, Rev Sir W. M. Honynman, Bart., Sir H. Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., Mr A. P. Heywood-Lonsdale, Rev T. E. Meredith, Hatfield, Rev W. H. Egerton (rector of Whitchurch), Rev E. T. Billings, Corra, Rev R. H. Cholmondeley, Rev R. Johnson, Moreton Say, Mr P. W. Godsall, Isycoed Park, Major Lee, Whitchurch, Captain Dickin, Loppington, Col. Edgell, Shrewsbury, Mr R. H. Corbet, Adderley Hall, Mr J. Downward, Tilstock, Mr R. P. Ethelston, Hinton Hall, Mr Francis Vere Somerset, Prees, Dr Groom (deceased's medical attendant, Whitchurch), Mr J. E. Etches, Whitchurch, Mr Harrison, Whitchurch, Mr Thomas Hares, Millen Heath, Mr Cholmondeley, Mr Prince, Whitchurch, Mr S. H. Sandbach, Mr Williams, Edgley, Whitchurch, Mr Vernon, Dulsingham, Mr Burgess, Whitchurch, Mr Edwards, Sandy Lane, Mr Ikin, Mr J. B. Edwards, Mr Thomas Batho, Mr Joseph Powell, Mr H. Ebery, Mr F. Ebery, Mr Adams, Mr W. W. Jones, Mr Thomas Cartwright, Mr Joseph Hares, Mr William Hares, Mr Samuel Hares, and Mr Robert Hares, of Prees; and the following tenants:—Mr Whitfield, Ashford Grange, Mr Evans, Mr Steventon, Mr Rogers, Mr Ford, Mr Harrow-smith, Mr Woodcock, and Mr Ridgeway; Mr Lamb (coachman), and Mr Humphreys (keeper). The service was read by the Vicar, the Rev E. Addenbrooke, and the Rev W. H. Egerton, rector of Whitchurch. Several beautiful wreaths were placed upon the coffin previous to its being placed within the vault. Among those who sent wreaths were the following:—Lord and Lady Hill, Sir W. M. Honynman, Bart., Mr and Mrs Heywood-Lonsdale, Mrs Heywood, Cloverley, Mr and Mrs Bibby, Hardwicke Grange, Mrs Somerset, Prees, Mrs Gariner, Prees, Mrs Lloyd, Lillistun, Kent, Colonel and Mrs Cooke, Mr and Mrs Heber Percy, Hodnet, the Misses Neilson, Mr and Mrs France-Hayhurst, Mr Barrett-Lennard, Mr and the Misses Whitfield, Mrs Sandford, Mrs Bryan Cooke, the servants at Sandford Hall, and the children from Lower Heath School. The body was placed in an inner shell, encased with lead, the coffin being of panelled English oak, French polished, with handsome brass fittings. The plate bore the inscription:—

Thomas Hugh Sandford,
Born
April 9th, 1820,
Died
November 26th, 1886.

The work of opening the vault, which now contains the remains of twelve members of the Sandford family, was undertaken by Mr Powell, builder, Prees. At the conclusion of the service, almost the entire congregation remained to take a parting glance at the coffin, which was placed upon that of the deceased's wife, who died in 1851. During the day all the shops in the village were closed, whilst the blinds of the private houses were drawn, and on every hand there were indications of the great respect in which Mr Sandford was held, and of the sorrow occasioned by his death. Muffled peals were rung during the day.

Mr Sandford was the representative of a long line who have held the manor of Sandford uninterruptedly since the Conquest. The founder of the family,

Thomas de Sandford, came over with the Norman King, by whom the manor was "granted" in 1070. One of the Sandfords, Sir Thomas, fought at Cressy in 1346, and his services are acknowledged in letters patent under the seal of Edward III. Another Sandford, Sir Richard, was bodyguard of Henry IV. at the battle of Shrewsbury, where he was slain. He was created a Knight.

The returns of the juries of inquest on the death of each proprietor of the manor from the reign of Richard I. down to that of Charles I. are now among the family papers at Sandford. It may be remarked that the family of Sandford of Sandford, and of Sandford of the Isle of Rossall, are both descended from the same ancestor, viz., Nicholas de Sandford (temp. Richard II.), who was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1386, and married Alice, daughter of William Boteler, first Baron of Wem.

The heir and successor to the Sandford estates is the second cousin of the late proprietor, the Right Hon. Sir Francis Richard Sandford, K.C.B. He was educated at Balliol College, Oxford, and was in the first class in classics, and graduated in 1846. Sir Francis is Permanent Under-Secretary for Scotland, previously holding the secretaryship to the Committee of Council on Education. In 1862 he was Secretary to the great International Exhibition. His grandfather, Dr Daniel Sandford, Bishop of Edinburgh, and the grandfather of the gentleman whose death we record, were brothers. Sir Francis's father, Sir Daniel Keyte Sandford, D.C.L., M.P., died in 1838, leaving three sons, all of whom have attained eminence and public position. Sir Francis's two brothers are the present Bishop of Tasmania and Colonel Sir Herbert Sandford, K.C.B.

The Late Mr W. J. A. France.

We regret to record the death of Mr Wallace James Arthur France of Ystym Colwyn, Montgomeryshire. Mr France died suddenly at his hotel in Leamington on Thursday, on his return from Birmingham Cattle Show. Mr France, who was the second son of the late Henry Hayhurst Hayhurst, Esq., of Montgomeryshire, was in his thirty-eighth year, and the news of his unexpected death was received with feelings of the utmost regret and sympathy by the inhabitants of Meifod and the neighbourhood generally. The deceased gentleman had endeared himself to all those with whom he came in contact, and by the keen interest he took in the affairs of the county—he was a magistrate, a member of the Llanfyllin Board of Guardians, and an earnest admirer of the game of cricket—his loss will not soon be forgotten. Mr France will be succeeded in the estates by Mr George Henry Hayhurst Hayhurst, late captain of the 7th Royal Fusiliers, who, by the will of his late father, will assume the name of France. The remains of the deceased were removed to Ystym Colwyn on Friday, and the interment took place yesterday, the remains being deposited in the family vault in Meifod Churchyard, amidst manifestations of the deepest sorrow by the members of the family and sympathy by the parishioners, tenants, and friends. Service was conducted at Ystym Colwyn, after which the funeral cortège left, arriving at Meifod soon after noon. On entering the churchyard the procession moved in the following order:—The Venerable Archdeacon Thomas and the Rev. D. Thomas, the Rev. W. Davies and the Rev. W. Hayhurst,

THE BODY,

borne by six workmen on the estate, Miss Hayhurst, Captain Hayhurst and Miss H. M. Hayhurst, Major Storey and Mrs Storey, the Rev. C. Swainson and Mr H. France Hayhurst, Captain Mytton and Captain M. Price, Mr Charles Watkin Williams Wynn and Mr J.

Marshall Dugdale, Mr Henry Lloyd and Dr Gill, Major Moreshead and Mr R. Whittingham, Mr R. Bromley and Mr Wakelin. After other clergymen came friends and the members of the household at Ystym Colwyn. The tenants following were Mr W. Roberts, Mr O. Peirce, Mr Evans, Mr Bebb, Mr T. Edwards, Mr J. Benbow, Mr Lewis, Mr E. Roberts, Mr Morgan, Mr D. Morris, Mr Benbow, Mr J. Price, and Mr Evan Evans. The churchyard was lined with school children, whose presence lent additional solemnity to the procession. The officiating clergymen were the Ven. Archdeacon Thomas, the Rev. W. Hayhurst, the Rev. D. Thomas, and the Rev. W. Davies. The coffin, with plain massive brass furniture, bore the following inscription:—

Wallace James Arthur France,
Died December 2nd, 1886,
Aged 37.

It was completely covered with most beautiful wreaths sent by the following:—Mrs Hayhurst, the Misses Hayhurst, Captain Hayhurst, Major and Mrs Storey, Capt. and Mrs Mytton, Mrs Lovell, Llanerchdyol, Mr and Mrs J. Marshall Dugdale, Mrs Beck, Mrs G. D. Harrison, Mr R. M. Harrison, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs Huddleston, Mr E. Hobson, Leamington, the servants of the household at Ystym Colwyn, Mr Wakelin and family, and Mr and Mrs Barrett of Leamington.

The Late Rev. John Owen, M.A., Rector of Erryrys.

The reverend gentleman was the youngest son of Mr Owen of Dolcafen, Llanfair Caereinion. He was a graduate of Jesus College, Oxford, and was ordained deacon in 1852, and priest the following year, by the Bishop of St. Asaph. His first curacy was Eglwys Rhos, near Llandudno, and there, by the kindness of his heart and courteous behaviour to all, he became highly popular. On the formation of a new parish out of a portion of the extensive parish of Llanarmon yn Iâl, Mr Owen was selected by Bishop Short as the new rector of the newly-formed district, which was called Erryrys, a name which implies that in ages gone by that part of the hill country was frequented by eagles. Well it might have been given over to them altogether, for it is a bleak and rugged part of wild Wales. Man, however, discovered that beneath those desert hills lay mineral treasures, and a population of miners sprung up where desolation formerly ruled. It was a mixed population of Cornish and Welshmen, and Mr Owen was placed among them as the first rector of the new parish. Young, enthusiastic, and talented, with a kind heart beating in his breast, and physical powers of no ordinary kind, the young clergyman began his duties with fervour and success. The people rallied around him, and cheered him on in his work, but he had to do everything himself. There was no ancient church there with its traditions for him to officiate in, nor was there a house for the rector to live in, while cottages occupied by the miners and their families were the only abodes in the whole district; there was no squire's house near, nor mansion of any kind. It was essentially a mining district. To many a young man such a place would have attractions, and it certainly had many in the eyes of the new incumbent, who hopefully began his ministrations in a cottage. This it was his pleasure to see full whenever he gave services, and consequently he set about erecting a church, and when this was accomplished a rectory was built, so now there was a church for the people, and an abode for their clergyman. In those days the lead works were in a flourishing condition, but Mr Owen lived

to see the works closed, and the population scattered, but still a residue clung to the land, and continued speculating in the old mines. It was in these altered conditions of the country that the goodness and generosity of the first incumbent of Erryrys were proved. He was ever ready to help those in distress, and he freely lent his money to the small farmers about without any acknowledgment; but he had the greatest confidence in them, and they in him, and his generosity was not abused. He was a father to his people, and it cannot be wondered at that he was highly popular, for the people ever appreciate kindness and nobleness of conduct. In Church work Mr Owen was also very successful—the Sunday school and week-day and Sunday services were always well attended. A remarkable feature in connection with the week-day services in Advent and Lent was the crowded congregations that attended them. On these occasions the preacher was some neighbouring clergyman, possessed of pulpit powers, and it was a treat to be present to hear the singing of the chants and hymns, and devout rendering of the service. Mr Owen was an accomplished musician, and he conducted himself the musical part of the services, presiding at the harmonium. After twenty-two years of unceasing labours in a cold and exposed district his health gave way, and he felt that he could no longer continue his labours among his people. Bishop Hughes offered him Rhuddlan parish, but he knew that the state of his health, and the double duties he would have to perform there were above his strength, and characteristically and conscientiously he declined a post he was unequal to. He continued struggling on a while longer in his mountain parish, heroically battling against failing health, but, although the spirit was willing the flesh was weak, he most reluctantly was obliged to discontinue his Lent week day services, which had been so dear to him, and beneficial to the parish. He could not now move about, and was obliged to take to his bed. In his long illness he engaged his mind by translating into English some of the plaintive Welsh hymns that ever touch a Welshman's heart. He was a true translator, and conveyed the meaning of the original into a foreign language. Some of these translations were highly appropriate to the circumstances of the Rector. Health gone, and associations relinquished, he loved to live and dwell on hope. Latterly the parish was under the charge of a curate, and Mr Owen went to reside at the sea side, first at Llanddulas, and afterwards at Abergele. In these places he lingered for more than two years hoping to recruit his health, but the change came too late, he ought to have had another charge ten years before, his friends saw that the end was surely approaching. Gradually he lost the use of his limbs, but his intellect continued clear to the last moment. He died Nov. 13, at Bedford House, Abergele, at the comparatively early age of fifty-seven, and was buried at Llanddulas, Nov. 17. The funeral service was performed by his dear friend and connection, the Rev John Davies, rector of Llanddulas.

DECEMBER 15, 1886.

NOTES.

INTRODUCTION OF GAS (Nov. 17, 1886.)—Many curious stories could probably be told of the introduction of gas into general use. I remember hearing my father tell of the alarm which was felt when Swan Hill Chapel, Shrewsbury, was lighted with gas. My grandmother and other ladies prudently sat in the vestry the first night, until the experiment had been tried and no fearful results had followed!

W.O.

QUERIES.

MOUGHTREY—ANCIENT EARTHWORKS, &c., IN.—Are there remains of any Ancient Camps, Cairns, Tumuli, upright stones, or other traditional ancient remains, in this parish? GWRD.

GEORGE BARNEWELL.—In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for the year 1810 there is a drawing of "Shelton Oak," taken in 1805, also of a place called Huck's Barn, a mile from Ludlow, on the Leominster road, the writer of the paragraph appended to the views, quoting from "Percy's Reliques"—

"Nay, I an uncle have,
At Ludlow he doth dwell,
He is a grazier, which in wealth
Doth all the rest excel,"

suggests that as there is a spot near called Barnwell's Green, this was the vicinity where George Barnewell murdered his uncle, on which incident Lillo founded his celebrated tragedy of "George Barnewell." Is there any local tradition existing as to this? Z.

REPLIES.

AUBREY FAMILY (Oct. 27, 1886).—There was no family living in Shropshire of this name mentioned in the "Visitations," nor is there in any of the MSS. in the British Museum which relate to Shropshire any family of the name of Aubrey. I notice two families of the name, one at Cantreff in Buckinghamshire, the other at Bours-hall. Both will be found in Lipscombe's History of the County, the former at pp. 67, 69, 70, the latter at p. 74, Vol. I. Perhaps a reference to the volume might give your correspondent a clue. Z.

A TREATISE CONCERNING THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL IN WALES (Nov. 24, 1886).—I am glad I called the attention of readers of *Bye-Gones* to the little book with the above heading, as my query has elicited so interesting a reply from your able correspondent, BONWM. In courteous recognition of the pains he has taken in the matter, and to remove any doubt that may linger in his mind, I beg to say I was particularly careful in transcribing the title page, and believe, as printed in *Bye-Gones*, it is letter perfect.

ZETA.

JUBILEE OF GEORGE III. AT OSWESTRY (Dec. 1, 1886).—In reply to BONWM's question about the Jubilee of 1810, I can send you the following scrap of information. My mother, Mrs. Deighton, was born Oct. 9, 1795, and spent many of her early years in Oswestry, and though now ninety-one is very clear about those early times. Her father, Lewis Evans, Esq., Fronfelen, Machynlleth, moved to Oswestry for the sake of educating a large family. Five sons were educated at Dr. Donne's, four daughters at Miss Dorset's and Miss Holbrook's schools. My grandfather was lieutenant in the Oswestry Volunteers, under Captain Parker of Sweeney, and we were surprised, when a few months ago you published a list of early Volunteer officers, that his name was not included. He left Oswestry in 1807. My mother remained at school at Miss Holbrook's, and remembers well being taken out in the evening to see the illuminations for the Jubilee, particularly in Church-street, and oxen were also cut up and given to the poor. Before they came

to Oswestry my mother well remembers their terror as children at being woke up one night by a horn, and a man riding express from Machynlleth to Dolgelley to warn people that the French had landed at Fishguard. Another little anecdote is worth mentioning. My grandfather and Mr. Hunt were great friends, and followed coursing a great deal together. My grandfather sent one of his dogs away with a shepherd going to Fronfelen. The dog, a greyhound, was taken safely there, but three days afterwards returned to his old home in Oswestry, having found his way across the hills entirely alone, and by instinct; and to any one who knows the wild trackless country, I think it is a wonderful instance of sagacity. These incidents are not quite to the point in question, but to any one fond of days gone by, as I am, I know they are interesting. ELLEN S. BURY.

Ellesmere.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr H. Mark Anthony, the painter, who died on Dec. 2, was of Welsh extraction. In his eighth year his parents settled at Cowbridge. Some of his paintings were Welsh landscapes.

Messrs Hodder and Stoughton have just issued in a handsome form an English translation of the well-known standard Welsh work on "The Doctrine of the Atonement," by Dr Edwards of Bala. The translation, which from a cursory examination appears to be faithfully and excellently done, is by Dr Edwards's youngest son, the Rev. D. Charles Edwards, M.A., lately of Balliol College, Oxford. The Welsh work was first published in the year 1860, but no one, I think, will deny that "it is even at the present date a real contribution to the literature of its subject."

The second annual conversazione of the Liverpool Welsh National Society held last week, in the Royal Institution, was attended by members and lady friends. The society numbered at the beginning of the present session 206 members, and 50 new members have since been enrolled. Among the contributions were Welsh literary curiosities, manuscripts, &c., lent by Mr Edward Howell and Mr Issac Foulkes. A lecture was given by Mr J. Herbert Roberts, called "Sketches of Japanese Life" illustrated by oxygen-hydrogen transparencies by Mr Llew Wynne. A programme of music was afterwards rendered by the Cymric Vocal Union, conducted by Dr Joseph Parry.

DEATH OF MR THOMAS GROVES.—Mr Thomas Groves, County Surveyor of Salop, died on Thursday at his residence, The Priory, Shrewsbury, at the age of seventy-five. Mr Groves has been connected with Shrewsbury all his life. In May, 1851, he was elected a member of the Shrewsbury Town Council, was defeated in 1862, but again returned in 1866. In 1879 he was elevated to the Aldermanic Bench, and he remained an alderman up to the time of his death. Mr Groves has twice filled the office of chief magistrate, and was associated with many public institutions.

DISCOVERY OF OLD COINS NEAR OSWESTRY.—Recently the first of a series of old coins was found on the works now being undertaken on behalf of the Liverpool Corporation at Llanforda Issa, and up to the present time about a score have been found, principally copper coins. The discovery was made in the excavations which are being made for the second and third of the series of four filter beds near Llanforda Issa, and at a depth of two or three feet below the surface. The coins were picked up separately in the

soil as it was being turned over, and the presumption is that many have escaped discovery. A number of copper coins of comparatively recent date are now in the possession of Mr Munroe, and a number have also been submitted to Mr Palmer of Wrexham for inspection. Mr Munroe has a coin of silver. On the obverse the name "Henry" is distinct, and there are also other letters; the reverse bears the design of a cross, the intervals of which are filled up with the fleur de lys and around the design there are letters, but their purport is indistinct. The copper coins include an old penny of 1797; a coin of nearly the same size of the reign of one of the Georges; an Irish coin of the date 1805; a coin, apparently a halfpenny of William III. or William IV.; and a coin bearing the date 1779. The inscriptions on which are somewhat obliterated. Of the coins submitted to Mr Palmer most of them date about the beginning of the present century, but one of them has a possible interest, although it is hardly possible to make anything of it.

JOHN SELDEN'S "HISTORIE OF TITHES."

You would save many of your readers, as well as myself, a great deal of trouble by kindly inserting the following description of my copy of John Selden's "Historie of Tithes." My copy of this great work (as some think it is, I believe, perfectly unique; and probably, as far at least as I can find out, the only one of the kind extant. Its ancient appearance, both of binding and print, unquestionably prove it to be the first edition of 1618, and it contains three parts:—1. *Historie of Tithes*, 448 pages; 2. *A Review to the 491st page*; and 3. *Ancient Records consulted*. Bound with it is *Sacrilega* sacredly handled, in answer to Scaliger, Selden, &c., by Sir James Sempil, 100 pages, and an appendix of 52 pages. Following this are "Reflections" on the above work, in MS. beautifully and clearly written in Selden's own handwriting, of 24 pages. After this follow "Animadversions upon Selden's *Historie of the Tithes*," &c., by Richard Tillesley, D.D., 236 pages. There is a reply again in MS. in Selden's writing beautifully written in the old style of that age (1618). These two MSS. of Selden have never, I believe, been printed, and they make this copy so valuable. I should have no objection to dispose of it at its proper value, or to permit it to be printed on certain conditions.

T. PRICE, M.A.

Prestatyn Vicarage, Rhyl.

GREAT STORMS AND FLOODS.—DAMAGE TO PROPERTY AND LOSS OF LIFE.

Last week heavy gales prevailed throughout the United Kingdom. Much damage to shipping and other property and serious loss of life is reported from many parts of the country. Several wrecks were reported, in some cases vessels being sunk with all hands. The barometrical depression reached its lowest point at 6.28 p.m. on Wednesday, when the mercury stood at 27.821, the lowest point ever recorded in England.—On the Marine Parade, at Aberystwyth, the wind and waves combined lifted hundreds of tons of stones and gravel and hurled them into the houses. Railings in front of the houses were snapped like carrots, doors were wrenched off their hinges, and a clean breach was made through the houses.—The low-lying parts of the town of Shrewsbury were flooded, and small boats were used for the transport of food and coals to many of the besieged inmates, who received them through the upper windows. Many gardens were inundated and considerable damage was done.

CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.—ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Honourable Society of Cymrodorion was held at the Library, Chancery Lane, on Thursday, under the presidency of the Earl of Powis.—The report for the year ending November, 1886, was read by Dr Isambard Owen. It stated that seventy-one new members had been added to the list during the year. Professor Powel of Cardiff had been appointed corresponding member for South Wales, and Mr R. M. Banks for North Wales. The Society had to deplore the loss by death of one of its Vice-Presidents, the late Mr William Jones (Gwrgant), and Dr Wynne Williams, late a member of the Council. After careful revision of the list of members, the present numbers of the Society are found to be 493, exclusive of five honorary members. The meetings in London during the past year included the following lectures:—'Wales during the Tudor period,' by Mr J. Roland Phillips, well-known as the author of 'The Civil War in Wales and the Marches'; 'Charles Edwards, author of "Hanes y Ffydd",' by Mr Ivor James of Cardiff; 'The Musical Composer,' by Dr Joseph Parry of Swansea; and 'The Welsh Historical Triads,' by Mr Egerton Phillimore. At the meetings (amongst the most successful of their kind) held in connection with the Eisteddfod at Carnarvon, Dr Isambard Owen delivered an address on 'Race and Nationality,' Mr Jones Griffiths, M.A., read a paper on 'The Utilization of the Welsh Language in Education,' Miss Dilys Lloyd Davies read a paper on 'The Higher Education of Girls in Wales,' and Dr Roland Rogers of Bangor read a paper on 'Choral Training.' In the early part of the year 1886 the Council entered into an agreement with Mr J. Gwenogfryn Evans of Oxford to take from him copies of his projected issue of the Red Book of Hergest, at a contract price, for distribution to the members of the Society. The object which the Council had in view in entering into this undertaking was to ensure the production of the whole of the Red Book texts. Before the agreement could be carried into execution the managers of the Clarendon Press, in which the work was to be printed, found that a large increase was necessary in the estimate for printing previously given to Mr Evans, upon which the agreement was based. Under these circumstances the agreement necessarily fell through, as Mr Evans could only have carried out his undertaking with the Society at a loss to himself. Mr Evans offered to enter into a fresh agreement with the Society to supply the work at the augmented price necessitated by the increased cost of printing, but the Council, after carefully considering the whole matter, found that the required sum could not be met from the estimated income of the Society without seriously hampering its other work, and were reluctantly obliged to decline this fresh offer. The Council were pleased to know that Mr Evans still proposes the issue of the whole of the Red Book of Hergest, and trusted that his patriotic enterprise would meet with cordial support from the members of the Society in their private capacity.

The following publications were issued during the year:—'Y Cymmrodor,' vol. vii., part 3, and 'The Gododin,' part 5. The delay occasioned by the negotiations as to the 'Red Book,' necessarily postponed the issue of further numbers of 'Y Cymmrodor,' but the first part of vol. viii. is now in the press and will shortly be issued. The completion of the 'Gododin' may also be looked for at an early date. The Council have exercised their right of sub-letting the Library in favour of the National Eisteddfod Association; and have placed the room at the disposal of the Committee of the National Eisteddfod of 1887. They have made arrangements to

render the Society's collection of Welsh and English books readily available to members as a lending library. The financial statement shewed a balance of £22 16s 9d in favour of the Society.—The Rev. J. Elias Hughes, M.A., and Mr E. Vincent Evans had been nominated to the vacancies created on the Council by the removal of the Rev. John Evans (Eglwys Bach) and the Rev. Dr Llewelyn Bevan from London.—The adoption of the report was moved by Mr John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia), seconded by Mr Howel Thomas, and carried unanimously.—The Rev. R. Gwyn proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturers and artistes who had given their services during the past year.—Mr E. Vincent Evans, in seconding the proposal, referred particularly to the valuable contribution to the literature of the Welsh Triads by Mr Egerton Phillimore. The motion was carried with acclamation.—On the proposal of Mr Howel W. Lloyd, M.A., seconded by the Rev John Davies, M.A., the following were appointed vice-presidents of the Society, viz., The Bishop of Llandaff, Lord Penrhyn, Sir Watkin W. Wynn, Bart., and Alderman David Evans.—A vote of thanks to the Council was accorded on the proposal of Mr W. Daniel, seconded by Mr W. L. Simmer; as also to the officers of the Society, on the proposal of Mr John Owens, seconded by Mr J. Milo Griffith.—The appointment of the Rev J. Elias Hughes and Mr E. Vincent Evans as members of the Council was confirmed on the motion of Mr T. Marchant Williams, and two vacancies occurring under Rule 5 were filled by the names of Mr Richard Roberts, B.A., and Mr H. Edwards.—The Rev John Davies, M.A., proposed a vote of thanks to the Earl of Powis, with whom he was an undergraduate at Cambridge, and who as president of the Cymmrodorion combined the essential qualifications of a good chairman, punctuality, courtesy, and business capacity.—Mr John Thomas (harpist to her Majesty the Queen), seconded the proposition, which was enthusiastically carried.—The Earl of Powis, in replying, said he was very sorry to have missed the recent dinner to the Bards, but he was glad to find that, for all the Romans and King Edward did to exterminate the bardic race, in the year of her Majesty's Jubilee the Bards of Wales were yet vigorous enough to hold their great congress—Yr Eisteddfod—in the heart of the Metropolis.

THE RE-OPENING OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, DUDLESTON.

The re-opening of St. Mary's Church, Dudleston, after undergoing complete re-toration, took place on Saturday. The restoration was begun some two years ago, when the church roof was covered with tiles from Mr J. C. Edwards's works, in place of the decayed slates then on the roof. This part of the work was done in memory of the late Mr Hodgson of Sedyllt Hall. It was decided to complete the chancel, begun in 1877 by the late Rev Cyrus Morrall of Plaspolyn, by erecting a chancel arch where the old sacristium joined the nave, and to lengthen out the open timber-work roof of the chancel up to the arch. This was done at the expense of Mrs Robertson, Miss Morrall, and the Rev F. and Mrs Alderson. It was then found that the upright wood suprts carrying the roof were decaying at the bottom, and stone columns with moulded caps and bases were substituted. At the Easter Vestry this year it was resolved to complete that part of the work by substituting stone arches, with a stone wall above, to carry the roof, in place of the lath and plaster arches then existing. In removing one of the temporary timber supports a skull was found adhering to it, and on an examination of what was beneath the floor such a shocking state of things was found that it was imperative, for the sake of the health

of those worshipping in the Church, that the whole of the soil, to a depth of three feet, should be at once removed. Another Vestry meeting was therefore called, and it was determined to complete the work of restoration forthwith. These works consisted in taking all the old plaster off the walls, and in neatly pointing the stonework with black mortar, the concreting of the surface of the ground within the Church, the relaying of the floor under the pews with boarding, and the aisles with tessera from Mr J. C. Edwards's Works, Ruabon, and the reconstruction of the hot water apparatus to suit the new arrangement of the seating. This was done by Messrs E. Thomas and Co. of Oswestry. The windows have all been re-glazed with cathedral glass of different tints, and the old coats of arms and different pieces of stained glass have been worked into them, producing a very pleasing effect. This work was done by Mr Davies of the Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury. The east end of the north aisle has been enclosed with a parclose, glazed with cathedral glass, for a choir vestry. Modern pitch pine seats of a very comfortable form have taken the places of the old oak pews. The top part of the old three-decker has been fitted on to a new base for a pulpit, and now forms a very fine specimen of old oak carved work. The paint and graining has all been cleaned off the old oak timbers and doors, and the natural wood exposed. The ceiling is coloured with a very light terra cotta tint, which gives the church a very comfortable appearance. Mr Henry Lewis of Oswestry has done all the painter's work, and Mr James Griffiths of Crifftis, Ellesmere, was the contractor for the works. The whole of the works have been carried out from the designs of Mr W. H. Spaul, architect, The Poplars, Oswestry, who personally superintended all the works. The total cost of the works from first to last, including the removal of the west gallery (which was a great improvement in the appearance of the church) is about £2,000, of which £400 remains to be raised. It may be mentioned as a curiosity that in their removal it was found that some of the bodies lying under the floor of the church were enveloped in flannel, a relic of the legislative encouragement given to the woollen trade.

The Church was very prettily decorated for the occasion of the re-opening, flowers being sent from the Vicarage and from Kihendre, and they were arranged by Mrs Walcot, Mrs Alderson, and Miss Chapman. The re-opening was celebrated at one service, a choral one, which was held in the morning. The surpliced clergy and a good surpliced choir met at the Vicarage, and marched in procession to the church singing "Onward Christian soldiers." The procession was led by the Rev. W. G. Haslehurst bearing a cross; the choir followed, and then came the following clergy:—The Revs. T. B. Holmes, West Felton, T. Redfern, Trefonen, H. K. Southwell, Ellesmere, E. Burridge, St. Martins, W. L. Martin, Bettisfield, H. J. Wilcox, W. C. E. Kynaston, J. Peake, Ellesmere, Canon Howell Evans, O. M. Feilden, Frankton, H. Moody, Welshampton, R. K. Haslehurst H. Williams, Bradford, H. M. Clifford, Ellesmere, G. H. McGill, Bangor, F. Alderson, Dudleston, the Ven. Archdeacon Lloyd, and the Bishop of Lichfield, who was preceded by the Rev. H. K. Fletcher of Shrewsbury, bearing the episcopal staff. The service, which was to Tallis, was intoned by the Rev. W. G. Haslehurst; the Venite was by Kimbault, the Jubilate by Fitzherbert, and the Te Deum was taken to the alternative chants by Hayes, Russell, and Stainer; the special Psalms were the 84th and the 150th, and they were sung, the first to Ouseley, and the second to the grand chant by Pelham Humphreys. The first lesson (I. Chron. xxix., 1-24) was read by the Rev. John Peake, and the second lesson (St. John ii., 13 to end) by the Rev.

R. K. Haslehurst. The hymn after the third collect was "The Church's one foundation," and the hymn before the sermon was "A strain of high thanksgiving."

The sermon, which was preached by the Bishop of Lichfield, was based on the words "To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth" (St. John xviii., 37).

DECEMBER 22, 1886.

NOTES

ROYAL JUBILEES.—LOCAL CELEBRATIONS (December 15, 1886.)—On the 20th of June next Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria will have completed the fiftieth year of her reign. There are only three other English monarchs who reigned for so long a period, Henry III, Edward III, and George III. Henry III, who was a boy of nine years old at the time of his father's death, was crowned at Gloucester on the 28th October, 1216, died on the 16th of November, 1272, in the 66th year of his age, and the 57th of his reign, and was buried at Westminster on the 20th of the same month. Edward III was placed on the throne by his father's deposition on January 20, 1327, crowned at Westminster on the 29th of the same month, died at Shene (Richmond) in the 65th year of his age, and the 51st of his reign, on the 21st of June, 1377, and was buried at Westminster. George III was born on June 4th, 1738, his grandfather died suddenly on Oct. 25, 1760, when, in the 22nd year of his age, he ascended the throne, amid the rejoicings of the people in having at length a native born king, and he inserted with his own hand in his first speech to Parliament the words "that he gloried in the name of Briton." He expired on the 29th of January, 1820, in the 82nd year of his age, and the 60th of his reign; the longest in our annals. The celebration of the Jubilee of George III took place on the 25th of October, 1809, at the commencement of the fiftieth year of his reign and was the occasion of universal national rejoicings. A writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of that year, in a letter on the approaching rejoicings, said—

"*Jubilee* or *Jublee*, seems to be derived from the Hebrew word *Jobel*, which signifies a ram, or ram's horn, or probably so called from *Jubal*, the father of those who play on the harp and organ (*Gen. iv. 21*). The *Jubilee* or year of *rejoicing* or remission among the Hebrews was held every fiftieth year, and a great sound of trumpets and ram's horns was to be made throughout all Israel in sign of the remissions, for then were bondmen made free. We find in the 26th chapter of Leviticus, which declares God's commands concerning the year of Jubilee, that the *fiftieth year shall be hallowed, and liberty be proclaimed throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof, it shall be a Jubilee unto you, and ye shall return every man unto his family. A Jubilee shall that fiftieth year be unto you.* Among Christians the solemnization of Jubilee was first instituted by Boniface VII in the year 1300, when plenary indulgence and remission of sins were granted to all those who should visit the churches of St. Peter and St. Paul at Rome in that year and remain 15 days. After this, Pope Clement VI instituted it to be held every fiftieth year, Anno 1350, and ordained it to be held on the day of the Circumcision of our Saviour. In imitation of this custom, it will be found in our history, that the Monks of Christ Church in Canterbury every fiftieth year invited a

great concourse of people to come thither and visit the tomb of Thomas à Becket. It is generally understood that the Kings of England who have reigned 50 years have also occasioned a public rejoicing to be held throughout the land. But as only two instances of such long reigns occur in our History, namely, King Henry III and Edward III., the mention of Jubilee is scarce. Without referring to records I can speak from the recollection of past readings that King Edward the III., in the fiftieth year of his reign, caused his birthday to be observed at Court in the nature and name of a *Jubilee*, upon which occasion he granted pardons, immunities, privileges, and many other civil indulgences. Great and universal rejoicings took place, and the kingdom presented a general scene of congratulation and happiness."

Nearly six hundred years had passed before the next opportunity presented itself, giving the nation an occasion to celebrate a Jubilee year. Engaged in a war with France, and embarrassed by domestic political matters, yet the people of high and low degree set about their preparations for celebrating the 50th anniversary of their Monarch's accession to the throne in a characteristically thorough manner. Cities, towns, and villages vied with each other in exhibiting their loyalty and affection for "Good old King George the Third." The form which they took may be gathered from the following reference, taken from the *Times* of November 1, 1809:—"The provincial papers received yesterday are filled with accounts of the celebration of the Jubilee. Every town, city, and village boasted on that memorable day its processions, dinners, illuminations, donations, and subscriptions." Two days before it had announced that though, "a great number of accounts of the celebration of the Jubilee had been received, yet as they were mere transcripts of the same effusion of loyalty, it was obliged to omit their insertion."

A Court of Common Council of the City of London on the 15th of September, 1809, was held to take into consideration the propriety of celebrating the 50th anniversary of his Majesty's accession to the throne, when the following resolutions were proposed and carried:—

(1) That this Court will celebrate the approaching anniversary of His Majesty's Accession to the Throne of these Kingdoms, on the 25th day of October, being the day on which His Majesty will enter the 50th year of his reign.

(2) That a Committee be formed, consisting of all the Aldermen and a Commoner out of each Ward, to consider the best means of carrying the said resolution into effect, and to report their opinion thereon to the Court.

The *Times*, 26th Oct., *Gentleman's Magazine*, and *European Magazine* each published a description of the manner in which the public rejoicings were carried out in London. They probably were a type of those carried out in other places.

The following is from the *Times*:—

The day was one of the finest imaginable, the happy event was celebrated by all ranks of people in "this Great Metropolis." The celebration was announced by pealing of bells and the assembling of the various bodies of the Regular Troops and Volunteers. The forenoon was dedicated to public Worship in every parish church and chapel. The Cathedral, the Abbey, the parochial Church, the Meeting House of the Dissenter, the Chapel of the Methodist and Catholic, and the Synagogue of the Israelite, were alike opened on this interesting occasion. All the shops were closed—the Lord Mayor and the whole Civic

body went in procession to St. Paul's. And it was gratifying to see the children of our innumerable Charitable Institutions walking to their respective places of Worship. At one o'clock the Tower Guns were fired, and the Guards in St. James's Park fired a *feu de joie*. After Church hours the streets were crowded with people—most of the ladies wore ribbons of Garter blue, and many wore Jubilee Medals. The Corporation and the City Companies dined at their respective Halls—and numerous other parties. The illumination was general and grand, hands could scarcely be obtained to light the countless Lamps, therefore most of the public edifices commenced illuminating as early as 2 o'clock p.m. The Mansion House, Royal Exchange, Bank, India House, Trinity House, Lloyd's, &c., &c., and most of the tradesmen's places of business, and everything seemed to have passed off without a hitch.

The *London Gazette* for several weeks after was filled with addresses from public bodies all over the Kingdom, from colleges, universities, clergy, and the other professions, municipalities, counties, &c., &c.

His Majesty issued Proclamations pardoning all sailors, marines, and soldiers who had deserted; the naval promotions consisted of 5 admirals, 10 vice admirals, 10 rear admirals, 20 post captains, and 20 commanders, and a list of promotions in the army appeared in the *Gazette*. The King also contributed £2,000 towards the fund for releasing small debtors from prisons in England, £1,000 to Ireland, and £1,000 to Scotland, for a similar purpose. The only honours conferred on civic or municipal magnates appear to have been that of creating the Rt. Hon. Charles Flower, Lord Mayor of London, a baronet, and knighting William Flower, Esq., an Alderman of London. Among the places in the provinces from which Addresses were presented were Denbigh, Kidwelly, Carnarvon, Swansea, Cardigan, Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth, Glamorgan County, Carmarthen, and Cardiff, and the Contributory Borough of Cowbridge, Swansea, Aberavon, Neath, Kenegw, Lougher, and Llantrissant (also a separate one from the Borough of Lougher, Glamorganshire), the County of Carmarthen, the "people of Glamorganshire;" and from "the Ancient and Loyal Borough of Montgomery," as follows:—

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,—

We, your Majesty's most dutiful Subjects, the High Steward, Bailiffs, and Burgesses, of your Ancient and Loyal Borough of Montgomery, humbly beg Leave to present to your Majesty our heartfelt Congratulations on the propitious Anniversary of your Majesty's Accession to the Throne. With unfeigned Gratitude we recognize the Divine Goodness in vouchsafing to us, through so long and arduous a Period, a Sovereign to whose transcendent virtues and inviolable Regard for our matchless Constitution, we ascribe, in an eminent Degree, the enviable Security and signal Prosperity of this highly favoured Land.

By the firm, dignified and paternal Government of your Majesty under Circumstances of peculiar external Difficulty and during Times of unexampled civil and religious Licentiousness, Anarchy and Faction have been suppressed, Vice and Impiety have been discountenanced and the national Glory maintained. Long may we, as Men and Britons, enjoy the inestimable Advantage of your Majesty's illustrious Example, and when it shall please the King of Kings to call you to happier Realms, may your Royal Descendants, emulous of your Patriotism, your Piety and Virtues, continue to promote the Happiness of

our Country and preserve un tarnished the Splendour of her Fame through a long Succession of Ages.

Given under our common Seal this 25th day of October in the Fiftieth year of your Majesty's Reign.

(Transmitted by Mr Whitshed Keene, and published in the *Gazette*, Oct. 28th, 1899, p. 1,731.)

The following was the address from Shrewsbury, which appeared in the *Gazette*, Nov. 7, 1809:—

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

We, your Majesty's dutiful Subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, Burgesses and Inhabitants of your Majesty's ancient and loyal Town of Shrewsbury, beg leave to approach the Throne with Sentiments of devout Gratitude to Almighty God, and of the Most cordial Affection and Attachment to your Majesty.

By the Protection of Divine Providence, your Majesty has been preserved to us from the Machinations of secret, and from the Attacks of open Enemies, through a Reign arduous, eventful, and of Duration nearly unexampled in our Annals. To your Majesty's Virtues, civil and domestic, to your Piety and eminent Attention to the Duties of Religion, both public and private, we ascribe it, under God, that this favoured Nation has been maintained in the enjoyment of its Rights, its Independence and its Honour, amidst the wreck of Empires, and the desolation of the civilized World.

That your Majesty's Sacred Life may long be spared to the ardent Vows of a loyal and affectionate People, is our earnest Prayer; and when you shall be called,—late may it be!—to the Reward of a Life devoted to the Welfare of your People, may your Successors prove emulous of your Virtues, and studious of your Example; that so our unrivalled Constitution, under the mild and paternal Government of pious and patriotic Sovereigns, may Continue to exist, the Wonder, the Boast, and the Delight of a late Posterity.—In Testimony whereof the Common Seal of the said Town is hereunto affixed.

LOXDALE—Town Clerk.

[Transmitted by Thomas Loxdale, Town Clerk.]

Ed.

QUERIES.

OFFUT.—Are there any members of the family of Offut, some or all of whom went from Wales to Ireland, still existing, and if so, who and where are they?

A.

OLD ROADS IN MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—There is, starting from a point near to the town of Bishop's Castle, and running along the summit of Kerry Hill to the "Cider House," on the road leading from Dolfor towards Bugeildy, a road which, three centuries ago, was locally known as "Yr hen fiordd" (the old road). Can any correspondent say whether there are any indications of a continuation of this road between the Cider House and a point on the new road leading from Newtown to Llanbadarn, where a township road branches off towards Pabyllwyd, and whether there are from this last place any indications of a road leading to Little London, which place, it is known, a Roman road passed, leading from Caersws to a point near Llandrinod. My object in asking is, because such a route would be almost direct from the Roman mines in the vicinity of Trefeglwys or Llanidloes to similar mines near Linley, the seat of Mr Jasper More, M.P. for South Shropshire.

STRATA.

REPLIES.

OLD RHYME (Dec. 8, 1886).—This old rhyme does not seem to be true. According to the common belief hops and turkeys were introduced into England in the early part of the sixteenth century, but carp are mentioned in the Boke of St. Alban's (1496). W. O.

LORD PRESIDENT OF THE PRINCIPALITY (Nov. 17, Dec. 1, 1886).—The reader who wishes to know more about "the President and Council of the Marches of Wales," should peruse the instructions given by James I. to Lord Compton, President in 1625, and ten years afterwards by Charles I. to the Earl of Bridgewater, which are preserved in Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. xvii., p. 629, and Vol. xix., p. 448. Richard Vaughan, Earl of Carbery, was Lord President of Wales and the Marches thereof from 13th to 23rd Charles II., 1661—66—71; he was the second earl of that name, the title having been created with John, in 1643, and became extinct in 1712. I have by me a copy of his appointment to the Lord Presidency by Charles II., directed to "Our right Trusty & Well-beloved Cousin, Sr. Richard Vaughan, Knight of the Bath, Lord Vaughan of Emblin & Molingar, Earle of Carbery, greeting, know yee That for the great & singular Trust & Confidence That Wee have in your approved fidelity, wisdom, & circumspection, Wee have assigned, made, constituted, & ordained, And by these presents doe assigne make constitute & ordaine you to bee Our Lieutenant, in these Our Counties of Anglesey, Brecknock, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Carnarvan, Denbigh, Flint, Glamorgan, Merioneth, Montgomery, Pembroke, & Radnor & the Towne & Burrough of Carmarthen, & County of the same & Towne of Haverfordwest & Co. of the same & all other Corporate & privileged places within the Limitts or Precincts of the said Counties," etc. Very extensive duties, both national and judicial, were conferred on the Lord President: To raise forces 'for the warrs,' to proclaim martial law if necessary, to pronounce sentence of death if necessary, and power to the Lord President to appoint deputies to act for him in any or all of the said Counties etc. Under this power I find that the Earl of Carbery appointed Robert Price, of Geeler, esquire, to be his lordship's deputy "for the co: of Denbigh, in North Wales." E.P.

Brecknock.

CURRENT NOTES.

Northampton Notes and Queries will, from the first of January, be published by Mr Elliot Stock.

Some Historical Notices of the O'Meaghers of Ikerrin, by Joseph Casimer O'Meagher, with facsimile illustrations and appendices, is announced for early publication by Mr Elliot Stock.

The death is announced of Mr John Eyke, of Belvidere, near Shrewsbury. The deceased, who was in his 69th year, was a native of Shifnal, in which parish his family had been established for the last four hundred years. For many years he resided at Houghton, near Shifnal, where he founded a stud farm for the breeding of racehorses, acting at the same time as agent for Lord Stafford. He became noted as a breeder of blood-stock, and at the annual sales at Newmarket, Doncaster, and elsewhere his yearlings always obtained high prices. He was much respected in the racing world.

Sir Baldwyn Leighton, Bart., is reported, in a work recently issued and entitled "Twixt Two Worlds," to have written his testimony regarding slate-writing performances at certain seances, given by Mr W. Eglinton. Sir Baldwyn writes as follows:—"The communications were immediate and unusually direct; and answers came, and information was given, that satisfied me at once that we were in communication with departed friends. A long letter signed with initials came from a relative, with a Greek quotation. He had been devoted to Greek literature and art while on earth, and was a clergyman of the Church of England. The Greek was very plainly and beautifully written, and the accents were given. Mr Eglinton is not, I believe, a Greek scholar, but no mortal hand could have written the communication in the time occupied, let alone the Greek."

We must commend the December number of the *Red Dragon* to Mr Myers and his friends, who are engaged in the cheerful study of death-tokens and apparitions, and have just issued a book on ghosts. A remark of the editor's is worth their careful attention; it is to the effect that ghostly experiences are far from uncommon in the remoter parts of Wales. Sceptics will not be surprised that apparitions fight shy of places inhabited by a keen-eyed public; but Mr Myers may be tempted to reside in one of these remoter parts for the sake of cultivating his acquaintance with ghosts. The three stories told in the *Red Dragon* are interesting enough, especially the first. A lady (who writes from Aberystwyth) after attending evening service at what we take to be Beddgelert Church, accompanies some friends to their lodgings at the Rectory, sups with them, and sets out for the village. As she goes down the drive, under the shade of the trees, suddenly she finds herself in the midst of a funeral procession, and hears the plaintive chant rising above the noise of a mountain stream. Naturally alarmed, she runs away "past the uplifted coffin," and makes for her lodgings with the best possible speed. That is the first story, and a very strange one it is, for the writer cannot be charged with going to sleep and dreaming as she walked from the rectory to the village. But it is a singular omission not to tell us whether there was a funeral after all! It was an unlikely place for the procession, and an unlikely hour; it is still more unlikely that this English visitor was favoured with a ghostly rehearsal for no apparent purpose. Story number two is more coherent. Another lady, Mrs Helen Watney, tells how when she was a child she saw our old friend "the corpse candle" on the surface of a pool, in which a man was drowned soon afterwards. All we can say is that Mrs Watney's father, who scolded her nurse, was a very sensible person. The third story is of a more familiar kind, and suggests the tricky spirits which haunt the legs of tables, and make themselves familiar with a good many people now-a-days. "Brython" continues his onslaught upon Professor Rhys, and there is a paper, founded on Lord Herbert of Cherbury's Autobiography, which finds a place appropriately in the National Magazine of Wales. The Notes and Queries continue to be valuable and interesting; in *Draconigenæ* we find a statement which will astonish the journalists of "the Welsh town of Wrexham." Where is "Bereheath School;" when was "Mrs Scutt murdered;" and who employed the pigeons? But these are only little matters of fact, whereas the editor has discovered, and duly chronicles for all time, that the *Osneyrty Advertiser* lately printed the word "full statue" for "full stature." We did not know before that these things were so important, or we should have mentioned last month that the "National Magazine of Wales" calls one of the highest mountains of Wales "Carnedd Dalfydd." Compared with matters of high moment like

these it is perhaps hardly worth while to ask how Llan-gollen could "look down" upon Castell Dinas Bran, as she is invited to do in a "poem" on page 506 of the *Red Dragon* for December. We congratulate our contemporary on his continued success, and wish him all prosperity in 1887—and fresh wit of the same delicate flavour for the "Draconigenæ!"

THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD OF 1886.—The net surplus of the Carnarvon National Eisteddfod is stated to be £60 odd. The committee have decided to make a donation of £30 to the National Eisteddfod Association, the remainder of the balance being applied to the funds of the Carnarvon Literary and Scientific Institute.

THE LATE COLONEL LEYLAND.—The personality of the late Colonel Naylor-Leyland, of Nantclwyd, Denbighshire, and Hyde Park House, Knightsbridge, has been declared at £241,662 18s 6d by the executors, Mr Charles Scarisbrick and Mr Philip Henry Chambers, to whom probate was granted on the 3rd December of the will (dated the 27th May, 1885), power being reserved to Mr Thomas Leyland, the other executor, and father of the testator. Excepting legacies of \$160 each to the executors, and of £5,000 to the testator's niece (Mrs Bartlett), for whom also large provision is made from certain funds to be realised and invested in land, all the real and personal estate is left, chiefly in trust, for the testator's wife and children. Colonel Naylor-Leyland, who was High Sheriff of Denbighshire in 1880, and formerly in the 2nd Life Guards, died at Strathvale, in Ross-shire, on the 26th of August, whilst deer-stalking with his son.

ART LOAN EXHIBITION AT OSWESTRY.

An Art Loan Exhibition was opened on Tuesday, Dec. 14, in the Victoria Rooms, Oswestry, by the Mayor (W. H. Lacon, Esq.) It was a very happy thought which suggested the organisation of an exhibition of this kind, for the primary purpose of raising a fund in order to extend the usefulness of a Recreation Room and Lodge for the use of young women engaged in business in the town. The late Lady Frances Lloyd, among her many other good works, took a leading part, as Diocesan President of the Girls' Friendly Society, in establishing a Recreation Room for the young women employed in shops in Oswestry. A Lodge has been added to the Recreation Room for the reception of those temporarily out of employment. The recreation room is opened in the evenings to members, and classes for instruction and amusement are held there. The object sought to be attained by the promoters of the Art Loan Exhibition was twofold, first to assist an institution which is doing a good work in the town, and which depends for its support upon voluntary contributions, and secondly to give the inhabitants of Oswestry and the district an opportunity of examining treasures of art gathered from the collections of public and private owners in the locality, to which collections for the most part they have no other means of access, and also of seeing local and other specimens of art and industry. In order to obtain the co-operation of all who were likely to give effective help in carrying out the details of the scheme, a large general committee was formed, with Mr Stanley Leighton, M.P., at the head.

The owners of the principal private collections of art treasures in the district were communicated with by Mrs Stanley Leighton, and very kindly expressed their willingness to lend them for exhibition. In fact, so general was the response that many proffered contributions had to be gratefully declined for want of space to exhibit them, the lower room being unfortunately engaged for another purpose. The result was a large and most interesting and

valuable collection, such a one indeed as is but rarely brought together in a comparatively small provincial town, and has, we believe, never before been brought together in Oswestry. The varied display included old plate, old embroidery, pictures, old lace, rare and curious books and manuscripts, antique furniture, old coins, old china, antique carvings, &c., from Brogyntyn, Brynkinalt, Llangedwyn, Vaynor Park, Adcote, The Quarry, Wynnstay, Tedsmore, Boreatton, Hardwick, Woodhill, Moreton Hall, Gredington, Sweeney, Wallop, Kyre Park, Ashgrove, Penyllau, Aston, Howbery Park, Shavington, Little Ness, Woodhouse, The Vicarage, Chirk Castle, Belmont, and many other houses. There was besides a stall of specimen work done in the classes of the Home Arts and Industries Association exhibited under the superintendence of Mrs Jebb of the Lyth, Ellesmere, founder of the Ellesmere Wood Carving Class, and one of the chief founders of the Home Arts and Industries Association.

The number of oil paintings contributed from the private houses of the district was very small, owing to its being unfortunately found impossible to hang them. We trust that they are only reserved for some future exhibition, when this difficulty will be overcome. A great number of the art treasures, antiquities, and curiosities at the Victoria Rooms have never been publicly exhibited before. The whole collection, and the effective manner of its arrangement, testified to the skill and taste, as well as industry, with which the promoters performed their arduous task.

Sub-divisions of the General Committee were formed to carry out the multifarious details of the exhibition. The following composed the Receiving Committee:—Messrs Bradshaw, Chas. Bull, J. Evans, chemist, Goulden, Robert Hughes, R. E. Hughes, Maclardy, F. Buller Swets, Waddington, Wakelam, Whitfield, junr. The duty assigned to this Committee, of which Mr R. E. Hughes was chairman, was that of attending to the receipt, removal, and delivery of all the things sent for exhibition. Another committee, called the Arrangement Committee, of which Mrs Stanley Leighton was the guiding spirit, successfully discharged the onerous duty of setting out all the articles sent for exhibition.

Prominent in the Exhibition were a selection from one of the greatest storehouses of art treasures and objects of historic and antiquarian interest in this part of the country, Chirk Castle. Among them were two old German flagons, some specimens of English China, old silver plate; two most capacious "black jacks," probably of the time of Elizabeth; a curious pair of leather top boots, dated 1650; an old painting on marble of the Cyclops; portraits of ladies of Chirk Castle, *temp.* Charles II., in old frames; two interesting old engravings of Chirk Castle, dated 1735; funeral ring in memory of John Earl of Derwentwater; who was beheaded in the rebellion of 1715; three finely embroidered waistcoats, date 1750; two orders of Parliament respecting Chirk Castle, 1659; a portrait of Sir Thomas More, by Holbein, in panel; an original letter from Arthur John Watts, to His Highness Prince Rupert, 1644, respecting the siege of Chirk Castle; a document recording the election of Sir Thomas Hugh Myddelton, Baronet, to be a Burgess of Oswestry, 1674, original manuscripts of date the 2nd of Elizabeth, addressed to Thomas Myddelton; appointment of a Myddelton to the Stewardship of Denbighshire; gold coin found at Chirk; a small "Cattle scene," by Potter, on wood.

The collection contributed by Mr E. G. Baldwyn Childe and Mrs Baldwyn Childe included portrait in panel of the second Earl of Essex (about 1600), who was born in what is now Mr Childe's estate of Netherwood, in Worcestershire; an eighteenth century sword

belonging to the old Shropshire family of Lacon; a very fine and interesting black chalk drawing, by Paul Veronese, of St. Catherine, sent by Mrs Childe, and it has been exhibited in the Grosvenor Gallery; a St. Joseph by Caravaggio; Sir James and Lady Pitts, of Kyre, Worcestershire, small pictures on copper, painted 1640, signed G.C., supposed to be by Gruzales Cocques; Edward Pitts their son, 1659; Lady Bingham, by Hamilton, 1774. This drawing belonged to Horace Walpole. The lady was a good artist, and he has written at the back of the picture the following verses:—

Without a Rival long on painting's throne,
Urbino's modest Artist sat alone,
At last a British Fair's unerring eyes,
In five short moons contests the glorious prize,
Raphael by genius, nursed by labour gained it,
Bingham but saw Perfection, and attain'd it.

(Signed) H. W.

Countess of Eglington, by Allan Ramsay, sketch for a picture about 1770; Northcote by himself. Born 1746, died 1831; Pair of Cross Bows, said to be of Dutch manufacture. The arms, which are inlaid in ivory, are those of Sir Edward Pitts of Kyre, Worcestershire. *Temp.* Hen. VIII.; a black letter Bible, 1559; "The whole book of Psalms, with apt notes, to sing them with-all," printed by Day, 1588; An Order for Morning Prayer; Sermons, Jacobi Verogine, in black letter, with ornamental initials and ancient binding in wood and stamped leather, with brass clasps and mountings; Quilt worked by Irish Ladies in the 18th century; Quilt of Italian Work, 17th century; Specimens of Old English Work and Lace; A Jewish Rabbi, by Rembrandt.

Mr Stanley Leighton's contributions were for the most part of local and antiquarian interest. They included—Double handled Silver Cup, presented by the 15th Company Shropshire Volunteer Infantry to their Captain, Thos. N. Parker, Esq., 1807; double handled silver Caudle Cup, 1750, Parker crest; pair of silver-chased Tea Caddies, in shagreen case, silver mounted,

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Parker and Watson arms, date 1765 (L L), makers' names John

Langford, John Seville; Official Seal of the Court of Marches of Wales, used by Sir Job Charlton, Kt. and Bt., last Chief Justice of the Court, which was abolished in 1689; Snuff Box, Satyr's head, enamelled, about 1790, belonged to Sir Robert Leighton, Bart.; silver gilt Snuff Box, Parker arms and monogram T.P., date 1679; double-handled China Cup, made at Coalport, 1793, presented by the Briarstree Loyal Legion to Thos. N. Parker, Esq., Mayor, Commandant of the Corps; Gothic Ivory Book Cover of the 15th century, 3½ in. in length, 2½ in. in breadth, with a description by the Rev John Parker; Wedgwood Plaque, Satyr and Goat, Bacchanalian Procession; Oriental vases; Haddon Hall, drawn from nature, and engraved with the diamond, by Rayner; Monumental Effigy in wood, from the solid, foreign work, 15th, or early 16th century; curious coin found at Sweeney, with a description; miniatures of Thomas Netherton Parker, Esq., and Sarah Browne, Mrs Parker, 1796; Pastel Portrait of Sir Job Charlton, Member of Parliament for Ludlow, Speaker of the House of Commons, 1674, Chief Justice of Chester, Judge of the Common Pleas, last Chief Justice of the Court of the Marches of Wales at Ludlow, A.D. 1680. From the accounts of the Mayors of Oswestry, it appears that on Sir Job's visiting the town in 1633, 3/6 was expended in wine for his entertainment; Neale's Original Sepia drawings of Shropshire Mansions, afterwards engraved: Apley, Porkington, Hawkestone, Willey, Acton Reynald, Stanley Hall, Attingham, Tonge, two of Powis Castle, by Luke Chande, two Brynkinnall; original sketches for the engraving of the Ladies of Llangollen, "Lady Eleanor Butler and Miss Ponsonby," by Mary Parker, Lady Leighton. These portraits, which were not published during their lives, are the only portraits ever taken of the "Ladies." The engraving of the "Ladies" in their riding habits was pirated from this original, and it will be observed that the faces are the same in both. Two light but clever sketches of these ladies were surreptitiously done by Lady Leighton while her mother was engaged in conversation with them, the Ladies of Llangollen, as is well known, having an obstinate aversion to having their portraits taken. Map of the Gentlemen's Seats in Shropshire, by Basil Wood of the White Abbey, date about 1715. MS. Preces Pia Illuminated Book of Prayer; Prize Cup, Oswestry Agricultural Society, won by T. N. Parker, 1810; "Study

for a Feast," Paul Veronese, 1532-1558, from the Right Hon. Sir Henry W. Wynn's collection; "A Head," J. E. Schenean, "Le Repenti," from Right Hon. Sir Henry W. Wynn's collection; MSS., 17th century, two folio vols, letters, etc., of Edward Lloyd of Llanforda, Royalist Governor of Oswestry; MSS. Folio Book, 17th and 18th centuries, Charlton of Ludford, Browne of Sweeney, Parker of White House; MSS. Shrewsbury, four vols, on paper of time of James I., describing events of local interest, carried on to 18th century; Mytton MSS, 1565 to 1691, 36 papers relate to Gen. Mytton, Parliamentary Governor of Oswestry. The volumes of manuscripts lent by Mr Stanley Leighton are of great local and historical interest, and with the owner's permission it is hoped that extracts from them may be published in *Bye-Gones*. Among them are, as we have said, two folio vols. of letters, &c., of Ed. Lloyd of Llanforda, Royalist Governor of Oswestry. He sold the estate at Llanforda to "Cousin Williams," Sir William Williams, who was speaker of the House of Commons, whom he calls in one of his letters "a Leviathan of our lands and laws." In another he complains that "Cousin Williams won't buy my land unless I serve up my discretion as sauce for the bargain."

Mrs Stanley Leighton contributed Set of Rose Point Lace, date 17th century; Old Quilt with point lace centre; a Quilt of blue crewel work said to have been worked by Lady Diana Barrington, wife of the Bishop of Durham, 18th century; a bracelet of Russian Cameos, 18th century.

The Dowager Lady Williams Wynn contrived engravings of Flora Macdonald and the Young Pretender, the originals of which were destroyed in the fire at Wynnstay, some old needlework curtains, some Point d'Alencon lace, and some very exquisite Point de Venise lace. We may here remark that the general display of lace and embroidery and needlework in the Exhibition was one of its most admirable and conspicuous features, and to the ladies was probably its most attractive feature.

Sir Watkin Williams Wynn sent the very handsome Bible presented to Sir Watkin and Lady Williams Wynn after the fire in 1858, some earrings given by Flora Macdonald to Frances Lady Williams Wynn, 1765, a very interesting relic, 1765, Welsh brooch presented to Lady Williams Wynn on her marriage by Lady Llanover, 1834, old Black Jacks, drawing of Gold Torque, Laws of Howel Dia (manuscript).

Mrs Bertie Williams Wynn contributed a very beautiful lace flounce, antique point de Venise; Mr H. Bertie W. Williams Wynn sent, among other things, an extensive collection of snuff boxes, no fewer than twenty-three, which, now that snuff taking is gone out of fashion, are chiefly interesting from an artistic and antiquarian point of view. Among the other objects of interest exhibited by Mr Bertie Williams Wynn was a silver gilt cup, presented by the King of Denmark to the late Right Hon. Sir Henry Williams Wynn, G.C.H., K.C.B., who was for many years British Minister at Copenhagen; silver boxes, containing Sir Henry Williams Wynn's full powers, the one under Signa Manual of William the Fourth, the other under that of her present Majesty; a silver pie spoon of peculiar shape and form, presented to him by the late King of Denmark; a silver tankard and a loving cup, both of 17th century; an original drawing, by Leonardo da Vinci; portrait in pastel, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, M.P., 4th Bart., by Hamilton; portrait in pastel, Charlotte Lady Williams Wynn, temp. 1760; ditto of Right Honourable George Grenville, by Hamilton; diplomatic swords belonging to the late Sir Henry Williams Wynn, G.C.H., K.C.B., regulation Infantry swords used by the late Arthur W. Williams Wynn, killed in command of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers at the battle of the Alma.

Mrs Owen Slaney Wynne sent some interesting specimens of needlework, lace, China, pottery, old plate, &c. Among the objects of local interest exhibited by her were a bronze battle axe head, dug up with many others at Garth Trevor; a silver cup made at Chester, and a Welsh black letter Prayer Book.

There were also a gold umbrella, taken from the Dacotins in Upper Burnah, lent by Col. Williamson, Royal Welsh Fusiliers; and a stool from Coomasse, sent by Major Conran, Maesy-Nant.

The following were included in the collection lent by Lord Harlech:—Glass case, containing sword presented by Lord Capel the day before his execution to Sir John Owen, also seal of Sir John Owen; small Pastel portraits of Mrs Ormsby and her daughter, when a child, afterwards Mrs Ormsby-Gore; Claymores from the field of Culloden; silver cup, presented by King William III. to Dorothy Manly, daughter of the Postmaster General of Ireland, to whom the king stood sponsor at her christening, she married eventually Ralph Gore, Esq., of Barrowmont; small glass case, containing minia-

tures, an ancient parchment deed of divorce, dated 1487, from Oswestry Chapter, and sundries; portrait of the late William Ormsby-Gore, Esq., by Lucas; "The Ancestral Weight," a ball dug up at the Cross in Oswestry and placed in the possession of W. Ormsby-Gore, Esq., said to be one of the weights used at the end of beams, bearing the Royal Arms and those of Fitzalan or of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, who died in 1271; a silver trowel presented to Lord Harlech's father upon his laying the first stone of the Dee Viaduct, on the Shrewsbury and Chester Railway; Portraits of Lord Harlech's grandfather and grandmother, by Sir Thos Lawrence, painted in 1787; one of nine Medals given to nine members of the House of Gore, who were elected to serve in the Irish Parliament of 1753; a painting by Spagnoletto of "Diogenes in Search of an Honest Man"; two beautifully embrodered quilts; cases of old medals, seals, and spoons, one spoon dated 1560, and some cases of exquisite miniatures, one of them a very fine miniature portrait, by Cosway, of Lady Horatio Seymour; some blue Sèvres plate.

Amongst the contributions of the Rev T. M. and Mrs Bulkeley-Owen was a pair of candlesticks presented to Mrs Bulkeley-Owen on the occasion of her marriage by the inhabitants of Pant Glas; a portrait of Mr Bulkeley-Owen, in oils, painted by Mr T. Bridge of Shrewsbury; a screen made out of a Court dress belonging to Lady Frances Bulkeley; silver gilt dessert dishes presented to Mr and Mrs Bulkeley-Owen upon the occasion of their marriage, by their friends at Oswestry; a peg tankard made from Owen Glyndwr's oak in the garden of Nannau; an old Print of the oak from a drawing made just before it was blown down; some old blue and white linen woven at Tedsmore and sent to Holland to be dyed; a beautifully embrodered banner of St Chad, worked by Mrs Bulkeley-Owen; some ecclesiastical vestments and vessels, including a chalice and paten of the 15th century.

Amongst the things sent by Lord Kenyon were some old watches; miniatures; some hair said to have belonged to the head of King Edward IV.; a fire screen, by Sarah, Lady Harlech; a garter worn by James Stanley, Earl of Derby, who was beheaded at Bolton in 1651, for his attachment to the Royal cause. The garter was given by him to an old servant of his own, whom he desired to attend on the scaffold to receive his head, and by her grandson given to George Kenyon, Esq., of Peel, who died in 1780.

Amongst Mrs Orlando Kenyon's contributions were portraits in chalk, by Anna Fonelli of Mrs Calveley Cotton and Lady Corbet of Adderley; portrait of Mrs Mowten Owen, copied by the late Lady Leighton from a picture by Sharples; miniatures of John Arthur Lloyd and Lord Rokeby, by the late Hon. Mrs Kenyon of Pradoc.

Amongst Mr Robert Lloyd Kenyon's contributions were a candle-brush presented by the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood to the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, High Steward of the borough of Oswestry, on the abolition of that office, 1836; sword presented by the 4th Company Shropshire Volunteer Infantry to their captain, the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, 1807; silver presented by the coachmen and guards of the Lion Establishment, Shrewsbury, to the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, May 18th, 1842; silver presented by the inhabitants of Oswestry to the Recorder, J. R. Kenyon, Esq., on his marriage, 1846.

Sarah, Lady Harlech, sent a Pre-Reformation Chalice and a prize tankard of the seventeenth century.

Colonel Lloyd's contributions included—Landscape by Claude; Holy Family, by Titian; portrait of Dr William Harvey, discoverer of the circulation of the blood; miniature of Charles I.; glass table, containing curiosities; engraving of Charles I. and Dr Harvey; miniature of the Rev John Robert Lloyd, rector of Whittington and Selattyn; medal presented to John Robert Lloyd for planting 65,440 oaks at Aston; miniatures of the late Mrs Lloyd of Aston, William Fitzwarren Lloyd, Royal Horse Guards, Blue, 1825; bracelet presented to the late Mrs Lloyd of Aston, by the Duke of Wellington, made out of the mane of his horse "Copenhagen," upon which he rode in the Battle of Waterloo, 1815; miniatures of Admiral Sir Eliab Hervey, Mrs Lloyd, the latter by Watteau, and Lady Louisa Hervey; portrait of Humphrey Lloyd of Llwyd (1527). He derived his pedigree from the Rosensendales of the North, who by marriage with the heiress of Foxhall in the neighbourhood of Denbigh, settled there in 1297. He was son and heir of Robert Lloyd, alias Rosendale, of the ancient Borough of Denbigh (which Humphrey represented in Parliament in 1503), by Jane his wife, daughter of Lewis Pigot, and was born in or about the year 1527.

One of the most interesting contributions to the Exhibition

was sent by Mr John Severne of Wallop Hall,—the basket and baby clothes belonging to King Charles I. These, which have never before been publicly exhibited, came into the Severne family through Sir Edward Walker, King Charles's Private Secretary, during the Civil Wars. The following is a list of the baby clothes—lace and muslin crib quilt, pillow case, long muslin bibs, frilled, shirt, linen caps, white satin caps, fine linen head-piece (three cornered), pair satin sleeves, pair linen sleeves, pair muslin mittens, pair linen mittens, odd mitten (linen), pair muslin cuffs, linen collar, silk ends, linen binders, linen binders, with ends, a coral, gold whistle with bells, white watered silk square, crimson satin square, trimmed with gold, and silver lace, supposed to be christening mantle. Mr Severne also contributed Dean Swift's Ring, fine cameo head; Pistols used by General Severne at the battle of Culloden; two exceedingly rare French books, one dated 1748, "Les Maux," at the end of which is bound up an order for the work to be burnt by the common hangman.

Mrs Lingen Burton sent amongst a number of other things some old embroidery work and some old Dutch and Guipure lace of the Leigh family.

The Rev. Mr Lingen Burton sent two engravings of Charles I., from paintings by Vandyke.

Archdeacon Lloyd of the White Hall, Shrewsbury, inter alia, an ancient peg cup, carved with sacred subjects, and a small china cup, used by Cardinal Wolsey.

Mr T. L. Longueville, Penylan, lent portrait of Sir Kenelm Digby; portrait of Lady Venetia Digby; six plates which belonged to Sir Kenelm Digby; manuscript in his handwriting; dress worn by Lady Longueville, 1700, great grand-daughter to Sir Kenelm Digby; silver box, presented to Miss Longueville by King Charles II.

Captain Payne, Pentre Ucha, sent silver watch, presented in 1643 to the Rev Edward Payne, Head Master of Oswestry Grammar School; and silver tankard, supposed to have been presented at the same time.

Mr Edward Williams exhibited a watch belonging to one of the French prisoners quartered at Oswestry.

Mr F. G. Buller Swete contributed some very rare and valuable engravings by Bartolozzi, Angelica, Kamfian, Prince, besides various other old coloured engravings. Among the prints were engravings of two of his ancestors, in the seventeenth century, Sir Richard Beaumont and Sir Thomas Beaumont, of Whitley Hall, Yorkshire. He also contributed some beautiful pictorial needlework, by the side of one specimen of which an admirable copy by the Hon. Mrs Bulkeley-Owen was exhibited. Amongst the plate shown by Mr Buller Swete were Queen Anne coffee pot, mustard pot bought at Duke of Kent's sale, Queen Anne sugar sifter, Queen Elizabeth coffee pot, silver Algerian looking glass, some example of Adam's furniture, a beautifully painted satin wood table, and a very interesting collection of China in Dutch cabinet, including Dresden with Shropshire mark.

Among the contributions from Brynkinalt was a dress sent by Lady Trevor trimmed with magnificent Point de Alençon lace, on a spider web ground, and embrodered, which once belonged to the unfortunate Queen Marie Antoinette. The Hon George Hill-Trevor sent, amongst other things, a large number of gold, silver, and copper coins and medals, a javelin sword (1791, the Judge's body guard Salop Assizes), and an Elan's foot from Hawkstone Park.

Among contributions by Mr J. Parry-Jones were some water colours, a mezzo-tint on silk, by Bartolozzi, and chair from Tong Castle, formerly belonging to the Duchess of Kingston. Among Mrs Parry-Jones's contributions were framed calico print from Morda cotton factory, about 1800; carved chair, date about 1720, from Castle, Salop.

The following is a description by "G.F." of the ancient Brank, or Scold's Bridle, lent by the Oswestry Incorporation:—

"There is no reference to this instrument of punishment on the records of the Incorporation, and therefore no direct evidence of its ever having been used as such. There is, however, indirect evidence that it was used once, early in the century, which is as follows:—Some years ago, Margaret Edwards, an inmate, born 1790, died 1863, and who, in consequence of ill-health and partial blindness, had spent most of her life in the House, on being asked if she had ever seen the Brank used, said, 'Yes, when I was a girl it was put upon one Mary Jones, in the dining-hall, before all the people, for throwing a can of hot soup over the Steward.' Curiously enough, the following extraordinary entry appears upon the minutes for the 17th Nov., 1795: Ordered that

Mr Cooper (the then steward) be directed by the Board to put a chain and a log upon Red Moll's leg as a mark of disgrace for her misconduct in running away from this House and returning again. . . . It is quite probable that 'Red Moll' and 'one Mary Jones' may be the same incorrigible."

The Rev W Kynaston's contributions included a monumental cup (Hardwick), a monumental tankard (Worthen Hall), and a volume of admirable coloured engravings of Holbein's portraits, published by Chamberlayne, 1792; Mr G Dumville Lees, sent some cases of stuffed birds and other animals; Mr Alfred Corrie sent amongst other things an old map of Shropshire; Mr Wilfrid Cripps, an interesting collection of old plate; Mr Alfred Darby, a beautiful Garifolo, 'Madonna and Child,' with landscape, inlaid frames by Gatti, a water colour by Millais, framed embroideries, collection of Salopian china, 12 to 13 pieces; Mrs Darby, several bits of old work, Hungarian, Roman, and Algerian, some very fine old Point Lace; Mrs Dayton, Morton, Sampler, embroidered Map of England; the Rev Henry Dunkin, an octave of Swiss cow-bells, Norwegian curiosities, antique German spiral candlestick, picture on copper of St. Francis at prayer, supposed to be by Carlo Dolce; Miss Edwards, Solihull, appliqué on white silk and point lace of the 17th century, and tapestry and pointed muslin of the last century; Mrs Forster, Grammar School, some Indian curiosities; Mrs Fulcher, a telescope; Mrs Glasgocline, old china; Mrs Evans, Sweeney, some piers of the last century, and some pictures in embroidery; Mr J W Goulden, a varied collection of curiosities; Mr Hendrick, a watch given by George III. to his butler; Mrs James Jones, aprons spun in 1785, and a curious pair of stays; Mr T Savin, a collection of Syracusan, Roman, Corinthian and other Greek coins, Chinese, Japanese, and also old coins of various European countries; Mr Heywood-Lonsdale, astool worked by her Imperial Highness the Princess of Prussia; an Irish gold torque; Colonel Lovett, Egyptian antiquities, medal—one of the 500 struck by General Gordon at Khartoum; Mrs Mainwaring, Oteley, a beautiful collection of lace; Mr A Mostyn Owen, picture by Sir Thomas Lawrence; Mr T Owen, set of 18 etchings by Jacques Callot, 17th century, set of 12 etchings by J G Will, 1753, the Breeches Bible, 1607, Rowland's "Mona Antiqua," 1766, Price's "History of Oswestry," 1815, curious collection of old pamphlets, 1717—1817; Mr T Longville, water colours—David Cox, Birkett Foster, Cattenmole, glass case of Scotch kilt ornaments; Mrs Trevor Parkin, lace and embroideries, blue vestment with gold rolls, and old English work; Miss Price, The Cross, old blue china, willow pattern; Mr Fletcher Rogers, an interesting collection of miniature weapons of war, &c., in deftly making which French prisoners of war interned in Oswestry whiled away the tedium of their captivity; Mrs Salt, portrait of Charles II. on copper, complete suit of Sikh armour, pair of candlesticks painted on copper; Miss Lucy Salt, banner of St. Christopher, with the well-known legend of that saint, belonging to C.E.W.M.S., worked by the exhibitor, copy of Pall, belonging to Fishmongers' Co., 14th century; Mrs Seymour, Italian, Indian, and Japanese embroidery; Mr Smith, Home Farm, Brogyntyn, sword and portrait of Tom Brown, the famous Dettingen dragoon. An inscription on the portrait records his extraordinary bravery. He was a native of the North Riding of Yorkshire. At the battle of Dettingen, after having two horses killed under him, and two fingers of his bridle hand cut off, and after retaking the standard and killing the soldier who had it, he "cut his way through a lane of the enemy, exposed to fire, and sword, in the execution of which he received eight cuts on the face, head, and neck, two balls lodged in his back, three went through his hat, and in that hacked condition he rejoined his regiment, who gave him three huzzas on his arrival," as well they might! Miss Stanford, antique châtelaïne; Mr T H Stokes, Trefonen, old engraving, Solomon's Temple; Mrs Starkey, old books, old embroidered waistcoat, antique jewelled pin; Miss Swann, piece of old silver lace, Fleuret, set of cameos, old fans, battle piece by Cuyp, a "B gaar Boy," by Murillo; Miss Swinson, piece of rose point lace, 17th century, old embroidered white silk dress, silk embroidery; Mr Brownlow Tower, Ellesmere, a Cuyp and a bailiff's baton, temp. James I., belonging to the first Lord Ellesmere, Lord High Chancellor of England; another bailiff's staff, which we believe is the only relic of the long ago extinct Corporation of Ruyton of the Eleven Towns, was exhibited by the Rev. F.P. Wilkinson, vicar of Ruyton, who discovered it at a farmhouse. It bears the name of Richard Kynaston, who died in 1541, and was described as a "man of staff of honour and office to bear before dignity." Mr Wilkinson also contributed "a ciborium or chalice, with a cover, used for receiving the Blessed

Sacraments, date 1570." Mr Trevor Turnor, book, of the 16th century; Mr Edward Thomas, old line engravings; Mr Vaughan, Myddle, old needlework quilts; the Vicar of Oswestry, specimens of Swansea china dessert service, tankards, Lowestoft, feather muff and capes, fan, old manuscript Dictionary, Welsh, Latin, and English, Chinese embroidery on chair, old garnet ornaments, old lock and earrings of Mosaic; Mrs Weaver, old ring; Mr J Whitridge, Book of Psalms and Welsh Bible; Mr J W Gausson, tortoise shell, silver watch, and châtelaïne; Mr Wakelam, smoking cap; Mr F Bathor, two coffee cups found in the tent of Arabi Pasha, Tel el Kebir, September 13, 1882; Mr Reginald Cholmondeley, a Roman head; Mrs Eytton C Williams, Cae Glas, Specimens of Burnese Phoonys drawing and painting on paper; Mr John Wynne, Park-avenue, an old drawing of Bishop's Castle; Major Corbett Winder, a very good Capo di Monti casket, enamel boxes, Indian curiosities, &c.; Mr E Burke Wood, a Rembrandt "Shaphan reading to Josiah the words of the Book," picture "Fruit," Guillaume Van Aelst, 1677, portrait by Van Veen, 1594, miniature enamel "Edward Burke," by Spicer, engraving by Bartolozzi of "Lord Thurlow," four valuable mezzotints by Frye, 1761, Dutch Greybeard, 1691, Worcester transfer cups and saucers (Chamberlayne); Messrs Woodall, Minshall, and Co., copies of various ancient MSS. relating to Oswestry, &c., of the date 1284, &c., MS. list of burgesses who voted at the election for Shrewsbury, June, 1747, MS. account of proceedings at Shrewsbury election, 1774, a MS. rental of the great tithes of the Rectory of Oswestry and St. Martins, 1795, a MS. copy of ancient Shropshire deeds, charters, &c., A Serious Exhortation, &c., by Thos. Porter, minister of the Gospel at Whitchurch, printed 1650, first volume of the *Oswestry Advertiser*, 1849. Among the specimens of local art and industry exhibited under the superintendence of Mr Wakelam, were a mirror in fretwork frame, by Mr Thomas Endley, coachman at Sweeney a technician by Mr W Ollerhead, Oswestry; a walking stick made from a shark's backbone, by Mr Robert Hughes, Llwyn-terrace; a bureau and cabinet of elaborate fretwork, by Mr Clark of Sweeney; and mosaic stand and cabinet, by Mr Lashmore.

In the place of honour, in the centre of the room, was a lofty stand on which were arranged the Corporation Plate of Oswestry and Shrewsbury, together with plate by private owners.

The Shrewsbury Corporation plate, and regalia exhibited with that of Oswestry, consists of gold and silver cups, a silver salver, two gold maces, three silver bâtons, a marshal's staff with silver head and neck band, and a sword of State in leather and gold sheath. The massive gold and silver flagon, "the gift of Colonel Robert Clive to the Honourable the Mayor and Corporation of Shrewsbury, September 17, 1760," is carved with figures in bold relief representing the operations of agriculture. The silver salver bears an inscription showing it to be the gift of Edward, Earl of Powis, son of Colonel Robert Clive, to the Mayor and Corporation of Shrewsbury, September, 1820. One of the gold maces bears the inscription "The Rev Hugh Owen, Mayor; Will: Smith, Esquire, senior Alderman; Rn: Edw: Earl of Powis, Recorder, A.D. MDCCCXXIX—George III." A large and elaborate gold shell cup, with a triangular base, and surmounted by three horses, bears an inscription showing that it was originally presented to Commodore Sir Edward W. C. R. Owen, K.C.B., etc., etc., in testimony of their gratitude and esteem, by the merchants of Kingston in Jamaica, 1823. Another inscription shows that it was afterwards the gift of "Admiral Sir Edward William Campbell Richard Owen, K.C.B., G.C.H., etc., etc., to the Corporation of Shrewsbury, October 6, A.D. MDCCCLIX."

Notes by Mr Wilfrid Cripps, &c., on the Oswestry Corporation Plate and Regalia, the Oswestry Parish Church Communion Plate, and the Communion Plate of the Independent Chapel (now Christ Church), which was exhibited by Mr. Thomas Minshall, have appeared in *Bye-Gones* (Nov. 3, 1886).

One of the most interesting and noteworthy features of the exhibition was the Home Arts and Industries Association Department, under the superintendence of Mrs Jebb, to whom the Society owes its inception. The following notes were kindly sent to us:—

"The specimens shown are gathered from a few only of the now numerous classes of the Home Arts and Industries Association. With a few exceptions the work is that of working people young or old, and the linen is spun by women to old or blind for other employment. Some of the tiles have been set by boys of nine or ten. The

carving, beaten brass, embossed leather, pottery, clay, modelling, and embroidery, have been done by boys and girls, men and maidens. Much of the work has been produced in leisure hours, after the regular labour of the day was over, and as much for recreation as profit. One class holder writes of the pleasure afforded by the evening classes to a talented pupil, whose regular occupation was to sort raisins and currants all day in an underground cellar. Men and women employed in other mechanical and monotonous pursuits have testified to the great pleasure and relaxation afforded them. A well-known writer, speaking before the Association was formed, said:—"If we can succeed in this work, we may bring joy and delight into thousands of lives," and his words are in a fair way of being verified. But it is not recreation only which is aimed at in the classes. It is hoped that in many instances they will prove the germ of revived village industries, while the training given to hand and eye is in itself an end of no small importance to working people.

Funds are greatly needed for developing the rapidly extending work of the Society, and supplying the classes all over the country with such models, designs, and working drawings as shall ensure a high standard of performance. Mrs Jebb, The Lyth, Ellesmere, is the Local Secretary for Shropshire, and Miss Corrie, Dyserth, Welshpool, for Montgomeryshire. The object of the promoters of the Association is to develop a genuine English School in this special branch of art. Great care is taken that the best designs and models should be placed before the pupils, and that there should be no flimsy or meretricious work. It is difficult to realise that the work on this stall is that of amateurs, so good is it.

It was intended to give a general idea of the kinds of work undertaken, though not all of the industries practised were represented. The wood-carving was all from Ellesmere and the neighbouring hamlets of Criftons and Cockshut, the arrival of a large case kindly sent by Earl Brownlow, with specimens of work done in his classes at Ashridge and the neighbourhood, having been unfortunately undiscovered till too late. Amongst the wood-carving specially deserving of notice was a large cabinet carved last year, at the age of fifteen, by Edwin Thomas of Criftons, a dumbwaiter carved with elaborate coat of arms and delicate floral work for Mrs Mainwaring of Oteley, by David Drury, an Ellesmere lad, also a corner cupboard carved with birds and interlaced branches of beech leaves, by the same, and a handsome table with a Saracenic design, carved by John Stone, bricklayer, Cockshut. At the first and second annual Exhibitions of the Home Arts and Industries Association held in London, this young man has been fortunate in receiving orders from members of the royal family. Like the other pupils, his woodcarving is merely supplementary to his regular employment, affording pleasant occupation for the long winter evenings. The brass and copper shewn came, with a few exceptions, from Keswick, where the Rev. H. and Mrs. Kamsley have themselves taught this art to their parishioners. The specimens consisted chiefly of large salvers and offertory plates, and sconces. The work was really beautiful. The difference between these hand-wrought articles, each different, and each possessing separate indication of human mind and skill, and the vulgar machine wrought ornamental brass of the manufactories is very striking. The pottery attracted considerable attention. Some of the prettiest came from Abbott's Kerswell and King's Kerswell, where the boys, who have learned in a neighbouring pottery the art of throwing on the wheel, meet once or twice a week, in one case in an old woman's cottage, in the other in a parish room, and learn how to

decorate the pottery made by themselves. Each class had done a large plaque with appropriate motto for the class-room. Of these one bore the legend—

Straight is the line of Duty,
Curved is the line of Beauty;
Follow the first and thou shalt see
The second ever following thee.

Some of the boys who are now leaving home to go out in the world are decorating plaques to leave behind them on the walls of their village homes, with mottoes of their own choosing, such as 'Forget me not.' Pottery of somewhat different character was exhibited from Miss Blount's Buckinghamshire classes, and a few interesting specimens from Kirkby Lonsdale. At the classes held in the last-named locality the pots are procured unbaked from a neighbouring flowerpot maker, and ornamented by the clay modelling class. One of the pupils, a gardener, who has only been learning a short time, shows real talent of a high order. Kirkby Lonsdale also contributed embossed leather, an art which deserves to make way, considering the number of objects to which it is applicable. It is an art which has as yet been little practised in this country, but under the auspices of the Association considerable progress has lately been made in its revival, the beautiful old Spanish leather being the description it is chiefly intended to revive. The hand-made linen from Langdale is interesting, as affording occupation to old women who cannot otherwise employ themselves. The kinds made are chiefly suitable for embroidery and as a foundation for Greek lace, of which a small specimen was shown. Our space will not permit us to do more than mention the excellent specimens of needlework (from Clonmel), where orders both for embroidery and underclothing are gladly received for the peasant workers by Mrs Bagwell, Marlfield, Clonmel. A few specimens of baskets and mosaic tiles made by little boys were also shown. The exhibits, as a whole, certainly show what a great amount of talent of a kind not generally known exists among our working people. They show, too, that it is not, as generally supposed, only the people of the Continent who are ready to employ their leisure hours thriftily and well. All that is wanting is to show them how. Every age of civilization is an age in which objects of beauty and skill are prized and demanded. We may follow the fashion for possessing such things by buying cheap and vulgar imitations, produced in circumstances of toil and misery in the back slums of overcrowded cities, or we may bring joy and thrift into cottage homes by possessing ourselves of beautiful objects made in our villages under conditions of health and happiness."

The following are some additional notes on the exhibition:—

Lace and Embroidery.—The lace, embroidery, crewel, and needlework deserve special attention. Though the connoisseur only could realise the extraordinary merits of the specimens exhibited, the general public could not fail to admire their beauty. The Dowager Lady Williams Wynn's lace was perhaps, as a whole, the finest collection. It consisted of seven or eight large pieces of Point de Venise, Point de Alençon, and Flanders lace, and was the admiration of everyone. In worthy proximity to this display was a dress of Lady Trevor's, magnificently trimmed with flounces of Point de Bruxelles, which once belonged to Marie Antoinette. Mrs Darby's set of old point looked very well. Mrs Bertie Wynn's flounce of antique Point de Venise was perhaps the finest single piece exhibited. Mrs Mainwaring's specimens were excellent and occupied a most conspicuous position opposite the entrance door. Mrs Stanley Leighton's 'Rose point' of the 17th century was very good. We must not omit to mention the chalice

veil of the 16th century shown by Mrs Trevor Parkins. Leaving unnoticed many exquisite smaller pieces, we next describe the quilts and curtains, mostly of the date of the first half of the last century. These would have been enough to fill the whole room if they had been fully displayed. Everyone will remember the Brogyntyn quilt, embroidered on silk with a needlework ground. This quilt has, we understand, been lent, for reproduction, to the South Kensington School of Art. Along the north wall were hung, side by side, one quilt of Mr Severne's, two of Mr Vaughan's of Burlton, and one with a point lace centre of Mrs Stanley Leighton's. The crewel work curtains of the Hon. Mrs Bulkeley-Owen's decorated the orchestra, and an Irish quilt of Mrs Baldwin Childe's represented the sister island in this department. There were a great many more, which were draped round the pictures, and which probably only the 'eye of a connoisseur thoroughly appreciated. We next come to the three embroidered waistcoats from Chirk Castle, which were well supported by three others, lent respectively by Mr Severne, Mrs Sturkey, and Miss Legh, and by a white embroidered apron, and a christening embroidered square watered silk mantle of Mrs Lingen Burton's. The tapestried furniture from Boreatton, of the 17th century, and the brown linen curtain with birds and foliage in white, from Llangedwyn, were well worth looking at. But still more curious was the tapestry square of Scripture subjects, lent by Miss Edwards of Solihull. The massive gold embroidery of an Eastern curtain for a mosque doorway, shown by Mrs Heywood-Lonsdale, was a rich example of Oriental taste; and we close, but we do not exhaust, our list by noticing the attractive basket containing the baby clothes of Charles I., and the christening mantles, trimmed with gold and silver lace, lent by Mr Severne.

Pictures.—The Victoria Rooms are not adapted for an exhibition of pictures, and comparatively few were shown. Those in the room were, however, masterpieces, and well worthy of any art collection. The three most important were the 'Claude' from Aston, which was in an admirable light and looked beautiful. The 'Holy Family,' by Titian, also from Aston, was an excellent example of that master; and the 'Spagnoletto' 'Diogenes in search of an honest man,' lent by Lord Harlech, was a fine work, but, placed on an easel in the middle of the room, it was difficult to get at a sufficient distance to see it well. The 'Paul Potter' from Chirk Castle was a gem, so was the 'Gainsborough' landscape, lent by the Rev. Bulkeley-Owen. The 'Wouwerman,' the 'Jansen Van Kenlen,' and the pretty sheep by Cooper, lent by Mrs Alderson, were each of them admirable. A 'Teniers' and a 'Cuyt,' lent by Mr Brownlow Tower, were equally good. Lord Kenyon's 'Wilson' landscape, and his 'Bunbury,' said to be the only oil painting by the celebrated caricaturist, were interesting. Sir Thomas Lawrence was represented by two miniatures from Brogyntyn of Mr and Mrs Ormsby (1787). A first-rate 'Cosway' miniature of Lady Florence Seymour, which has been exhibited in London, was lent by Lady Harlech. There was a good 'Watteau' of Mrs Lloyd of Aston, and a characteristic miniature of the Rev J. R. Lloyd of Aston, rector of Whittington and Selattyn, in a red coat. The style of pastel drawing was well shown by Mr Bertie Wynn's two small portraits of Sir W. W. and Lady Wynn by Hamilton (1772), and one by the same artist of Lady Bingham, lent by Mrs Baldwin Childe. The same style was also represented in two portraits of Mrs Calveley Cotton and Lady Corbet, lent by Mrs Orlando Kenyon, and in a portrait of Blakeway, author of the 'Sheriffs of Shropshire,' by Sharples, lent by the Rev. Lingen Burton. The most noticeable of the larger portraits were Sir Thomas More, on panel, by Hol-

bein, from Chirk Castle; Humphrey Llwyd, the antiquary, and William Hervey, the discoverer of the circulation of the blood, from Aston; Queen Elizabeth, on panel, from Gredington; Earl of Essex, her favourite, on panel, from Kyre Park; Sir Kenelm Digby, from Penylan; Sir Job Charlton, Speaker of the House of Commons, from Sweeney; the Rev Bulkeley-Owen, by Bridge, from Tedsmore; and Mr W. Ormsby-Gore, M.P., by Lucas, from Brogyntyn. The original sketches of the old masters were principally from the collection of the late Sir Henry Wynn, and by far the best was a splendid head by Leonardo di Vinci. The old-fashioned coloured engravings were beautifully represented by Mr Swete's collection of 'Bartolozzis.' Four mezzotints by Frye, lent by Mr Burke Wood, were excellent; so were the water colours of Millais, lent by Mr Darby; of Cox, Cattermole, and Birkett Forster lent by Mr T. Longueville, and of St. John, lent by Mr Parry Jones, one of which, a view of Rome, was hung over the fire-place, and attracted much attention. The original Indian ink drawings of Buckler, done for engravings in Blakeway's History of Shrewsbury, were exquisite; they were lent by the Rev Lingen Burton. We now pass on to describe the paintings on copper. These deserve special notice, and we hardly know where to begin. Two miniatures of Sir James and Lady Pytts, by Gonzales Coques, 1640, were shown by the Rev E. Baldwin Childe; a Charles II., by Mrs Salt; a miniature of E. Burke, by Mr Burke Wood. Mr Brownlow Tower lent a fine medallion of a saint surrounded by flowers; the saint, by Brengel, surnamed the 'velvet,' and the flowers by De Sagars. Very closely resembling this were two pictures lent by the Rev Bulkeley-Owen. Mr Bertie Williams Wynn showed five pink enamels on copper. With these we must associate the Battersea enamel candlesticks of Mr Bull and Mr Salt, and the charming case of the same class of work lent by Mr Corbett-Winder, including specimens of Bilston and Green Battersea. A little box in Mr Owen Slaney Wynne's case of sevens, brass-mounted, painted by the great ship painter of that manufactory, deserved a less crowded position than it obtained.

China.—The Wedgwood from Chirk was very good, as was Mr Buller Swete's case, including Dresden, Oriental, Swansea, Worcester, Bristol, Chelsea, Nuremberg, Anstel, Vienna, Wedgwood, Nantgarw, &c. Mr Darby's was also very good. The various manufacturers of English china were very well represented. Mrs Owen Slaney Wynne's case was a specially good one, though a little too miscellaneous, and too crowded to be well seen.

Swords, etc.—There were several swords scattered about different parts of the room, which recalled historic or personal incidents. Lord Harlech showed Lord Capel's rapier, given by him on the day before his execution to his fellow-prisoner, Sir John Owen, of Porkington. They were both condemned to the block, together with the Duke of Hamilton, the Earl of Holland, and Lord Goring, but Sir John was reprieved. Of the sword of Thomas Browne, the Dettingen dragoon, exhibited by Mr Smith, we have already spoken. Two claymores from the field of Culloden, were lent by Lord Harlech. The sword worn by the last British Governor of New York was lent by Mr Clarke. An 18th century sword belonging to the old Shropshire family of Lacon was lent by the Rev. E. Baldwin Childe. A javelin sword of 1791 used by the Sheriff's body guard at the Salop Assizes was lent by the Hon. G. Hill-Trevor. Several diplomatic swords worn by the late Rt. Hon. Sir Henry Wynn, and a regulation infantry sword used by Capt. Arthur W. Wynn, who was killed in command of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers at the Alma, were lent by Mr B. W. Wynn. In

this class must be mentioned a pair of cross bows, temp. Hen. VIII., artistically inlaid in ivory, said to be of Dutch workmanship, with the arms of Sir Edw. Pytt's of Kyre, lent by his descendant, Rev. Baldwyn Childe; two large seals of the 17th century, one belonging to Sir John Owen, Vice Admiral of North Wales, lent by Lord Harlech; the other, the official seal of the Court of the Marches of Wales, abolished in 1689, of which Sir Job Charlton was the last chief justice, exhibited by Mr Stanley Leighton. The funeral ring, in memory of John, Earl of Derwentwater, son of James, who was beheaded for the rebellion of 1715, lent by Mrs Myddelton Biddulph, and the earrings which Flora Macdonald gave to Frances Lady Williams Wynn, recall a stirring period of English History; while the hair of Edward IV, lent by Lord Kenyon, takes us back to the dynasty of the House of York. The great leathern "ale jacks" from Chirk Castle and Wynnstay remind us of old fashioned English hospitalities.

A list of exhibits, which, however, is not quite complete, has been printed by Messrs Woodall, Minshall, and Co.

THE OPENING CEREMONY.

The opening ceremony was performed soon after two o'clock, on Dec. 14, by the Mayor (Mr W. H. Lacon). Notwithstanding a heavy fall of snow there was a numerous attendance of visitors. The Mayor, who wore his chain of office, was escorted to the platform by Lord Harlech, Mr Stanley Leighton, M.P., and several members of the Town Council. The proceedings opened with the singing by Mr Leslie's Festival choir, conducted by the Rev T. Redfern, of "Rule Britannia."

The MAYOR said—It gives me great pleasure to stand here to day in my official capacity to open the Art Loan Exhibition. I am sure we shall all enjoy seeing the works of art and the many objects of local and historical interest here exhibited. The proceeds, you are aware, are to be devoted to the Lodge and Recreation Room for the benefit of the young women engaged in business in the town. For this they are indebted to the late Lady Frances Lloyd, and the fact that it was founded by that lady should be a sufficient guarantee that it is a work of charity and deserves all your support. (Cheers.) I hope that this Exhibition will be a success, and that we shall at the end of the three days receive a large sum of money in order that a substantial sum may be realised for the benefit of this institution. It is an institution which ought to command our hearty sympathy and approval, tending as it does to promote the well-being and recreation of the young women in business in the town. (Cheers.) Mr Stanley Leighton is present and I hope he will be able to give us a little more information about the Lodge and Recreation Room than I am able to do; but although I am unacquainted with the details of its management, I feel confident it is an institution deserving of your unanimous and hearty support. I now declare the Exhibition open. (Cheers.)

LORD HARLECH said—I think that before closing this ceremony, and before we proceed to inspect the beautiful things which are collected in this room, our thanks are due to the Mayor of Oswestry for his kindness in coming here to-day to open the Exhibition. (Cheers.) To have been elected to the chief civic chair of this ancient borough is in itself a distinguished honour, but I do not think the compliment of electing a Mayor is entirely a one-sided one. Though he is to be congratulated upon being elected its chief magistrate, I also think the borough of Oswestry is to be congratulated upon having in that capacity one who bears so high and irreproachable a character as Mr Lacon—(cheers)—and who is so excellent a representa-

tive and worthy a scion of one of the oldest families in the county. I beg to propose a vote of thanks to Mr Lacon for his kindness in coming here to-day to open the exhibition. (Cheers.)

MR STANLEY LEIGHTON, M.P., who was received with cheers, said: Mr Mayor, ladies and gentlemen, as the chairman of the general committee, it is my pleasant duty to second the words of thanks in which Lord Harlech has so well expressed the obligations of the neighbourhood to you. The committee desire me, in their name, to acknowledge your kindness. When we first considered who would be the fittest personage for us to ask to perform the ceremony of declaring this exhibition open, many names naturally suggested themselves to our minds. The hereditary lord of the manor of Oswestry, the Recorder of the town, or some one of those who live in the immediate neighbourhood and whose ancestral connection with the borough is notified generation after generation in the records. But we passed over all these names, because we thought that there would be a special fitness, should it happen to be agreeable to yourself, in the elected chief magistrate of the town taking the first place at the opening of an exhibition, specially illustrative of its local history, and generally supported by its inhabitants. Other loan collections may be intrinsically more worth a stranger's notice, but in no collection will an Oswestrian man find more to attract his attention. If the Exhibition is as successful as its promoters hope, it will be due to the gratuitous and unremitting labours of voluntary helpers. (Cheers.) There has been a universal willingness to assist. Not one ungracious word of disparagement or slight has, as far as I know, been spoken. The public spirit which has been manifested is a proof that Oswestrians are not behind the citizens of any other town in uniting for an object of public utility. Not the least important requirement for such an exhibition is the loan of cases and of glass which have been generously lent by Oswestry tradesmen. Let me remind you that choirs numbering 80 performers have promised to give entertainments in the evenings—(cheers)—that separate committees, or individuals, have undertaken various departments, such as the receiving and arranging 2,000 exhibits, of watching them day and night, of advertising the Exhibition, of making a catalogue, which I see has been very beautifully got up—(cheers)—of providing refreshments and presiding at the refreshment stall, of taking the tickets at the door, of taking precautions against fire. All this work has been freely performed by many whose time is their money, and I cannot do less than take this first opportunity of returning them public thanks. (Cheers.) It is good for everybody to see specimens of the best work of past generations, which often lie hidden from sight from year's end to year's end in corporate and private ownership. This is an opportunity when all may see, what usually only a few have the opportunity of looking at. There is an educating influence in such displays. We cannot be too grateful to the lenders who have shown the utmost liberality in lending. Loan exhibitions are amongst the pleasantest recreations of our days. But to insure their popularity it must be shown that they can be conducted so as not to leave the promoters with a deficit. If on this occasion we are able to produce a fair balance sheet, we shall have done something towards showing how in any country neighbourhood a popular, a refined, and a healthy amusement may be provided. The attractions of the exhibition have grown far greater than its promoters at first dared to anticipate. There are, as I have said, 2,000 exhibits; and I may add, in passing, that far from exhausting the treasures of this neighbourhood, we have become acquainted with many precious stores, which will remain

for other exhibitions in the dim and distant future to reveal. The old plate will doubtless be among the most noticeable objects here. There are, I believe, 5 or 6 pieces earlier than 1600. These are principally Church plate, with the exception of two very curious spoons. One of the Corporation Cups, given by Sir Hugh Myddleton, the projector of the New River, in 1616, is the earliest and most valuable piece belonging to the town. Shrewsbury has sent us the magnificent flagon presented to the county town by Colonel Robert Clive in 1761. There are besides several pieces of presentation plate associated with Oswestry. But I think every one will admit that the feature of the collection mainly consists in the number and variety of old specimens of magnificent needlework and of lace. This is most appropriate, for ladies are now taking the lead everywhere, and the productions of their fingers deserve here a prominent place. I would also direct attention to the elaborate samplers of our grandmothers and great-grandmothers. Many of the manuscripts illustrate our local history. We have Richard II.'s Charter to the town in 1398. We have the letters of Edward Lloyd of Llanvorda, the Cavalier Governor of Oswestry, and of General Mytton, the Parliamentary Governor. We have a manuscript account of a Shrewsbury election in 1774, and a number of others well worth an antiquary's notice. I must not forget to mention some very curious china, especially Cardinal Wolsey's cup. Then the old Oswestry weight with Edward I.'s arms, together with those of Fitzalan, is here. And the rapier given to Sir John Owen of Porkington by Lord Capel himself on the day of his execution, in the certainty that it would be worn by him with honour. A charming collection of snuff boxes and watches will be seen, and one of the latter belonged to the Rev Edw. Payne, head master of the Grammar School in 1636. There is a most interesting lot of things which have been handed down from the famous Sir Kenelm Digby to the family of Longueville, and the christening mantle of Charles I., together with other things belonging to him which have been lent by Mr Severne. Coming to later days the sojourn of the French prisoners at Oswestry is recalled by a number of ingenious models in wood of their own contrivance. I am glad to add that the work of past centuries is placed side by side with work of today, and we may compare ourselves with our fathers and see how much better or worse we are than they. The Home Arts Society has a special stall devoted to its exhibits, and the craftsmen of Oswestry have been invited to show carvings of their own, and have responded to the invitation. I trust, Mr Mayor, that on the whole, you may consider the Exhibition not unworthy of your presence, and of the town of which you are the chief magistrate, and that you may be compensated in some measure for the trouble you have taken, by the consciousness that an art collection is a school of art and that such exhibitions tend more than anything else to deepen and refine the artistic tastes of the community and are of general and public usefulness. I again ask you to accept our thanks. (Cheers.)

There was a stall where light refreshments were served under the superintendence of Mrs Howell Evans. Some excellent vocal and instrumental music contributed to the enjoyment of the visitors. Some pianoforte pieces were played by several young ladies, and the following glee parties kindly gave their services:—Members of Mr Leslie's Choir, conducted by the Rev. T. Redfern, Parish Church Choir Party, G.F.S. Members in business Glee Party, and "Briwfab's" Male Voice Glee Party. Performances were also given by Mr Howes's String Band and the Volunteer Band.

The Exhibition closed on Thursday evening, Dec 16, and

the two thousand contributions have been returned without loss or damage to their owners.

Though the weather during a great part of the time was not at all conducive to a large attendance, the total number of visitors to the Exhibition was about 1,600. It was especially pleasant to observe how many of the working classes availed themselves at night of the reduced charge for admission, and how lively an interest they evidently took in the exhibits. The sum of £64 12s 10d was received including the receipts (about £4) from the Refreshment Stall. We congratulate Mrs Stanley Leighton, the honorary secretary, and her coadjutors, upon this result of their arduous efforts, because it will show that when a sufficient number of voluntary workers can be enlisted, and all unnecessary expenditure is avoided, it is possible to get up art exhibitions in towns no bigger than Oswestry with pecuniary success. The balance sheet shows a profit of £45 for the Young Women's Recreation Room.

The Late Archdeacon Allen.

It is with much regret that we record the death of the Venerable John Allen, M.A., master of St. John's Hospital, Lichfield, and formerly vicar of Prees and Archdeacon of Salop. The ven. archdeacon died on Monday of last week, at his residence, St. John's House, Lichfield, in the 77th year of his age. He was the youngest son of the late Rev David Bird Allen, rector of Burton, Pembrokeshire, by marriage with Mary Ann Harriett, daughter of Mr Peter Bartholomew Julian, of London. He was educated at Westminster School, and graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, taking his Bachelor's degree, as 18th Senior Optime, in 1832, and proceeding M.A. in due course. Mr Allen was ordained deacon in 1833, and admitted to priest's orders in the following year by the Bishop of London (Dr Blomfield.) For some time he held the chaplaincy of King's College, London, and he was also examining chaplain to the Bishops of Chichester and Lichfield successively. In 1839 he was appointed one of the first of her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools. He held the vicarage of Prees, in Shropshire, from 1846 till 1883, was Prebendary of Upton Cantoris in Lichfield Cathedral from 1848 till 1859, was appointed Archdeacon of Salop in 1847, and master of St. John's Hospital, at Lichfield in 1883. Archdeacon Allen was the author of an allegory, entitled "The History of St. Cuthbert," of some valuable reports in the minutes of the Committee of Council on Education, a volume of sermons, &c., and the editor of an edition of "Cudworth on Free Will." He married, in 1834, Harriet, daughter of Mr James White Higgins, of Hornead Bury, Hertfordshire, by whom he has left a family.

The reverend gentleman, as we have stated, resigned the living of Prees in the summer of 1883, after an incumbency of 37 years. During this long time he laboured among his parishioners with unflagging zeal, and although in latter years his strength failed him, his thoughts were ever with his flock, who looked up to him as a kind and gentle leader. It is given to but few clergymen to excite such a generous feeling amongst all Christian Churches as that which was cherished for the late Archdeacon. On leaving Prees the Nonconformists of the parish presented him with a beautifully illuminated address, in which they said:—"We desire to give expression to the esteem and respect we entertain towards you for your very many acts of kindly consideration and uniform Christian courtesy; also for the fidelity with which we believe you have discharged

the very onerous duties which have devolved upon you as a minister of the Established Church. We do not fail to remember, and we take this opportunity of expressing our thanks for, the outspoken and generous part you were pleased to take in the discussion, and the aid you gave in reference to the passing of an enactment for the removal of inequalities pressing upon that portion of her Majesty's subjects with which we are identified."—The Archdeacon, in returning thanks, said the address was a real pleasure to him. The kind feelings of the large body of parishioners towards their old vicar found expression in the erection of a beautiful stained glass window on the south side of the old parish church, and a brass tablet at the foot of the window bears the following inscription:—"To the glory of God and in grateful recognition of pastoral duties faithfully performed by the Venerable John Allen, Archdeacon of Salop, and Vicar of this parish during 37 years. This window was placed by his parishioners and other friends on his resignation of the cure, A.D. 1883." Owing to failing health Mr Allen was unable to be present at the unveiling of this memorial, but the feeling of his parishioners towards him was expressed with none the less warmth, and a vote of sympathy in his suffering was tendered to him. Archdeacon Allen's duties as Master of the Hospital of St. John were less onerous, but we may be sure he performed them with the zeal and kindliness which characterised his work at Prees.

The late Archdeacon was a prominent figure in Shropshire for nearly forty years, and few men did so much for the Church of England, either in active work or in the far more valuable service that consists in winning regard not for himself only but for the office which he filled and the Communion to which he belonged. He hated to see slovenly work or slovenly buildings, and during his archidiaconate large numbers of churches were repaired or "restored." He organized his archidiaconry with great care and vigilance, he took a leading part in asserting both the rights and the duties of the laity, and he was constantly found in gatherings of Churchmen when the interests of the Church which he loved so much were discussed. His invigorating influence has left its mark upon the archidiaconry, where he will long be remembered and esteemed.

The interment took place in the Cathedral Close, Lichfield, on Saturday. The body was carried from St. John's House to the Cathedral by members of Miss Allen's Bible Class, and the blinds at the houses en route were drawn and the shops partially closed, as a mark of respect. At the Cathedral the procession was met by the Bishop of Lichfield, Bishop Abraham, Rev. Canon Lonsdale, and the cathedral clergy and choir. The hymn "The Saints of God" was sung as a processional. The mourners included the members of the family, a great number of clergy from all parts of the diocese, the brethren of St. John's Hospital, the Grammar School boys, and many citizens and friends. Amongst those present were the Revs. Prebendary Thatcher, Prebendary Plant, Prebendary Allen, Prebendary Scott, Prebendary Harland, Prebendary Lester, Prebendary Grier, C. Bodington, E. Sampson (Brereton), F. C. Edwards, J. R. Keble, A. F. W. Ingram, E. de V. Bryons, F. Wilkinson, H. Stokes, Wall, G. T. Hayward, J. Kewley, Armitage, E. Bradley, G. H. Egerton, Myddle, R. C. Wanstall, Dawley, Salop, J. Owen, Kettle, A. T. Pelham, Cound, E. V. Pigott, Trenham, C. T. Abraham, Shrewsbury, E. Auden, C. E. McCreery, Walsall, F. H. T. Curtis, &c., Hon. Mrs. MacLagan, Mrs. Selwyn, Colonel Hadfield, Mr J. T. Godfrey-Faussett, Mr W. F. Gordon, &c. The service in the Cathedral was conducted by the Rev. Canon Lonsdale, and the Bishop read the concluding portion at the grave.

DECEMBER 29, 1886.

NOTES.

THE PEACE OF 1814.—OLD INHABITANTS OF OSWESTRY (Dec. 8, 1886).—Mr Thos. Marshall, son of the late Mr Marshall of Aylesbury, points to two corrections which are required in the particulars respecting his father which I gave in *Bye-Gones* of 8th December. 1st, The Christian names were *James Henry*, not *John Henry*, as in the particulars. 2nd, Mr Thomas Marshall is a *nephew*, not a *son*, of Mr Matthew Marshall, formerly Cashier of the Bank of England.

Castle View, Oswestry.

THOS. MINSHALL.

THE CATHOLIC RELIGION AND SUPERSTITIOUS REVERENCE OF THE FAIRIES IN WALES IN 1586-8.—"The rest of our people are either such as never think of any religion, true or false, plainly mere Atheists, or stark blinded with superstition. The latter are of two sorts. The first crew is of obstinate idolators that would fain be again in execrable Rome and to hold for good divinity whatsoever hath been hatched in that sacrilegious nest, but those may do what they will with us, for neither civil magistrate nor bishop will control them, they may be even of the Parliament House, lest that congregation should be without some Achā[n?] that gave the Lord just occasion to execrate his whole host. Hence flow our swarms of soothsayers and enchanters such as will not stick openly to profess that they walk on Tuesdays and Thursdays at nights with the fairies, of whom they brag themselves to have their knowledge. These sons of Belial who shall die the death (Levit. xx., 6) have stroken such an astonishing reverence of the fairies into the hearts of our silly people that they dare not name them without honor. We call them *bendith à mamme* that is, such as have deserved their mother's blessing. Now our people will never utter *bendith à mamme*, but they will say *bendith à mamme à dñhn*, that is, their mother's blessing (which they account the greatest felicity that any creature can be capable of) light upon them, as though they were not to be named without reverence. Hence proceed open defending of Purgatory and the Real Presence, praying unto images, &c., with other infinite monsters."—The foregoing is an extract from the Pamphlet referred to in *Bye-Gones*, Nov. 17, 1886. ZETA.

QUERIES.

PRYCES OF NEWTOWN HALL.—In Lewys Dwnn's "Heraldic Visitations of Wales" it is stated that the Pryces of Newtown Hall migrated thither from Moughtrey. Is it known, or is there any lingering local tradition as to what part of the parish of Moughtrey their residence was situated in? Which is considered the most ancient, Cwmrhiwdre, Neuadd Esgair Geiliog, or Lliwynmadoc? I do not mean the present structures, but which is thought to be the principal place in the parish? GWRYD.

THE AUBREYS (Dec. 15, 1886).—The Cantreff Aubreys hailed from *Brecknockshire*, not Buckinghamshire, as stated by "Z." Sir William Aubrey (temp. Elizabeth), the principal and most noted member of the family, was of "Cantreff, co: Brecknock." Who was

Mrs Griffith-Aubrey, who married Mr Tozer (afterwards Mr Tozer-Aubrey of Broomhall), the J.P. who committed old Doughty to Shrewsbury Gaol for preaching in the streets of Oswestry? E.P.

REPLIES.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE EARTHWORKS, PEN-Y-GAER AND NEIGHBOURHOOD (July 28, 1886).—The summit of The Pigwn (*the Beacon*) the highest eminence in the parish of Bettws-Cedewen, situate about a mile north-east of the village, and whence a magnificent view of the surrounding country may be obtained, is the site of the British camp known as Pen-y-gaer (*Fortified Hill*.) The camp is oval in form, about two hundred and ten yards in length, and ninety in breadth, and is defended on the north, east, and west by a fosse; on the south side, where the ascent is abrupt, no traces of a fosse are discernible. A fir plantation now occupies the site. On the northern slope of the hill, and about two hundred yards from the camp, there is a considerable number of little trenches, two or three feet wide, and varying from two to six yards in length. Some of these trenches are three feet deep, and others are scarcely discernible; they occur at irregular intervals. All run in the same direction—east and west. The slope is covered with fern and gorse or furze; exploration is therefore difficult. The opposite slope, about five hundred yards distant, and now a dense wood, also abounds with excavations, principally consisting of level circular spots. Tradition says a battle was fought here. Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* furnish a similar example, or connect these trenches with any particular tribe or race? On Ucheldre (*High Town*) farm, a little further north than the wood already referred to, but out of sight of Pen-y-gaer, are the remains of another camp. This is apparently British, being oval in form, but somewhat broader at the west end; its extreme length is one hundred and thirty yards; breadth, sixty yards. The east and west ends are defended by a fosse and rampart, the east end is further defended by a fosse at the base of the hill; the fosse at the west end, where the ground rises, is from three to four yards wide and from ten to twelve deep. The camp is naturally defended on the north and south by ravines. In that on the south side are what appear to be the entrances of two subterranean passages whereby water was obtained, or they may be the work of an enemy attempting to undermine the camp. The space enclosed within the parapet, along which venerable oaks grow—some have been lately felled—is quite level; and advantage has been taken of this by the ruthless husbandman, for traces of the plough are plainly seen. This camp commands the valley of the Llifor, which here divides the parishes of Bettws and Berriew. There are traces of an old road proceeding in the direction of Pen-y-gaer. A circular mound crowns the summit of a hill which rises between Bettws and Pen-y-gaer, and which bears the distinctive appellation of Caer-Siac (*Jack's Camp*, or as I take it, *the Spit Camp*). I have a faint recollection that there is an earthwork somewhere in Glamorganshire which is called Samson's Jack. En passant, What is the meaning of Jack in this connection? This mound is about sixty yards in circumference at the base and thirty on the summit, which is nearly flat: it is nearly surrounded

by a fosse, and is from twelve to fourteen feet high. Whether this be an outpost of Pen-y-gaer, or a funereal pile raised over the grave of some chieftain, I cannot determine. Superstition has connected it with fairyland, and given it the name of The Ladies' Seat, whereby it is locally known; and some fairy rings are shown in an adjacent meadow. Another field on Bettws Hall farm bears the name of Maes-y-domen, but no traces of a tomen or tumulus now remain; which, however, may be explained by the fact that the field is an arable one. Cefn-dinas (*Fortress Hill*) is a bold eminence, partly on the same farm. In a field at the foot of this hill there are faint traces of what appears to have been an ancient camp, consisting of an oval space of about a hundred and twenty yards in length, delineated by a slightly raised ridge, and almost entirely surrounded by a morass. In another part of the same field, and immediately at the base of the hill, is an elongated mound of some twenty feet high, apparently a breast work. At some distance up the side of the hill there is a slightly curved trench, about a hundred yards in length, and varying from one to three yards in depth. The slope which faces the valley of the Bechan, and along the brow of which there are traces of another trench, is called Bron-Gyndyl (*Cyndyl's slope*), and this name may give some clue as to the identity of the earthworks of the district. I venture to suggest the possibility of a connection between this name and that of Cynddyl or Cynddylan, a Prince of Powys in the sixth century, who fell in battle with the Saxons. A local tradition states that the "city" of Caersws—six or seven miles distant—once extended to Cefn-dinas and Uchel-dre. Another states that there is a subterranean passage from Caersws to the ruins of Dolforwyn Castle, also within the parish of Bettws-Cedewen. These traditions may be taken for what they are worth, but they seem to suggest the idea of a connection between the points referred to. The ruins of Dolforwyn Castle are within, or rather command, the Severn valley; and are sufficiently well known to need no description. I remember to have heard some old people call this Castle "Castell-y-tair-Morwyn," alleging that three old maids resided therein at the time of its demolition, and that it fell by the treachery of one of them: but this may be only another version of the legend of Sabrina. I have a strong impression that there was a road therefrom leading to Caersws, traces of which are visible at several points; but I may return to this subject again, as well as to some local traditions relating to the Castle. [Has this Castle ever occupied a place in *Bye-Gones*?] Within sight of the Castle, and midway between it and Pen-y-gaer, which is distant about two miles "as the crow flies," is another British camp: I say British reservedly, as I have not recently visited this spot, and cannot therefore give much detail respecting it, further than that it occupies a prominent position, on the Camp farm, commanding the glen known as Cwm-docyn. A tradition relating to this camp, and also, with slight variations, a spot near Pen-y-gaer, is still extant. The spot referred to is situate immediately under Pen-y-gaer on the south side, and rejoices in the unique name of Deuddeg-again, or twelve score. The tradition states that a battle was fought here, and twelve score was the number of the slain, who were buried here—some say they were Saxons. The tradi-

tion adds that the victors thence proceeded to Cefn-y-pawl; where they encamped, and erected a *Pawl* or flagstaff. There are several very suggestive place-names in the locality, such as Bryn-y-cil, (*Hill of the Retreat*); Bryn-heddwh, (*Hill of Peace*); Cae'r-beulu, (*the Bailey field*, or perhaps *Fort*) [The word *beulu* is said to be from *ballium*, a Court; but it is applied to places that have other than Roman origin?]; and Pen-carn-Einion (*the Hill or Point of Einion's Cairn*). It will be observed that there are in the district examples of *caer*, *castell*, and *dinas*, as well as *bere*, all of which are applied to a camp or fortress. It would be interesting to know to what distinctive periods they respectively belong. I am at a loss to know where KELT refers to when he states that "there is also one (an earthwork) farther west, on some high ground between the village of Bettws, and in the direction of Aberhafesp." I have observed a British camp on Gwyn-fynydd (*the Fair or Blessed Mountain*), near Caersws, and traces of several old roads on Henfryn, Llwyn-y-brain, and Tregastell farms, and also near the Pentre, Aberhafesp, as well as two circular mounds, near Aberhafesp Church (and in the Severn valley), which an old inhabitant told me were "made for planting cannon on to batter the city of Caersws." (?) I merely mention these remains, trusting that a local correspondent will furnish a more minute description. There is also an eminence in the same neighbourhood, known as the Squilla, or Y Ddisgwylla (*the Watch Tower*), and another place of the same name in the parish of Berriew, three miles from Penyaer; but I am not aware of the existence of earthworks at either. Possibly beacon fires were lit there.

T. H. J.

NOVELS RELATING TO WALES (Nov. 17, 1886.)

In reply to a query by "R. W." as to who was the author of "Gladys the Reaper," I copy the following from a recent catalogue of works published by Hodder and Stoughton:—

ANNE BEALE.

THE PENNANT FAMILY.—The Story of the Earl of Craigavon;

By ANNE BEALE, Author of "Squire Lisle's Bequest," "Gladys the Reaper," &c.

With eight full-page illustrations. Handsomely bound. Crown 8vo.; cloth 5s.

T. H. J.

CURRENT NOTES.

With reference to the scheme for the re-erection of the Moel Famau Tower, in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, a circular has been issued by the Duke of Westminster, asking for the appointment of delegates to attend a representative meeting to be shortly held at Chester.

Madame Patti is attracting immense audiences in the States. At Philadelphia the Welsh-born citizens presented her with two silver vases above two feet high. The chairman of their committee said to her:—"We simply pray that Almighty God will bless you with peace and plenty, and that your days in beautiful Craig-y-nos Castle may be brighter and brighter until you are called to sing the sweet songs of Zion in that blessed hereafter, where the harps of gold will gladly welcome you. Duw a'ch bendithio chwi."—*Truth*.

An interesting souvenir of Randolph Caldecott has been found at Whitchurch, in the shape of some sketches

pasted in the clock at the old bank in that town. Mr Caldecott was at one time a clerk in this bank, and probably made the drawings in leisure office hours, and placed them in the clock case. They are all signed, and bear evidences of that then latent talent which afterwards made the draughtsman's name a household word in England. This quaintly illustrated clock has changed hands, and possesses now a special value.

There has just been completed in Chester Cathedral (says *The Times*) a series of works in marble mosaics, which exceed in importance of aim and extent of area any similar work of modern times. This is the set of mosaics executed by Messrs Burke and Co., from the designs of Messrs Clayton and Bell, for the decoration of the north wall of the nave, the cost, which has been very considerable, having been borne by Mrs Platt of Durham Park. In each bay there stands one of the great figures of Old Testament history, Abraham, Moses, David, and Elijah; and on either side of these are panel-spaces filled with grouped compositions, which illustrate some leading incidents in the life of the central figure. Thus, Abraham is flanked by pictures of the Sacrifice of Isaac and of the Burial of Sarah; Moses by the Finding of the Cradle in the Nile and by the episode of Aaron and Hur supporting the Lawgiver's hands; David by the scene of David before Saul, and of the King's grief at the news of Absalom's death; and Elijah by the scenes of the Angel appearing to Elijah and of the Prophet's denunciation of Ahab. Above are canopied niche-like panels containing other Old Testament figures, &c. The special interest of the work consists in the fact that it is in marble mosaic, composed of an infinite number of small tesserae, such as one sees in an old Roman pavement, but such as have very rarely been used in wall decorations either in ancient or modern times. The present age has seen a great revival of the mosaic art, but almost exclusively of the Venetian type, with gorgeous colour and backgrounds of blazing gold. This work is very splendid in its proper place, and, seen from a distance, it is brilliantly decorative. But it may be doubted whether the cool tones of the marble—white, gray, yellow, green, &c.—are not more in harmony with the character of a northern cathedral. The Chester panels are soft and beautiful in tone, and the designs reflect much credit upon the artists. It is impossible to see them without a feeling of deep regret that the late Dean, Dr. Howson, to whose careful supervision they owed so much, did not live to see them completed.

In the Court of Appeal, on Wednesday, judgment was given in the question of municipal law raised by the Bangor Town Council. The controversy arose out of a contest on the 1st November, in which Alderman Roberts, whose term of office expired on the 9th November, and Mr Pritchard were candidates. Mr Roberts polled most votes, but the returning officer held that, being an alderman, he was not eligible as a candidate for a seat as a councillor, and declared Mr Pritchard duly elected. This led to double elections of Mayor and aldermen, and the question was carried into the law courts. Judgment was given in favour of Mr Pritchard, and was appealed against. On Wednesday the Court of Appeal—the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Lindley and Lopes—reversed the appeal, declaring that Alderman Roberts was an eligible candidate, and could serve after the expiration of his term of office as an alderman.—Mr Glyn said that the Town Council had never authorised anybody to appear on their behalf.—The Master of the Rolls: Do you allege or maintain that it was decent behaviour for the Town Council to turn round and withdraw from the appeal?—Mr Glyn said that the resolution in favour of the with-

drawal of the appeal had been passed by eleven votes, those who objected to it refraining from voting.—The Master of the Rolls said that an alderman, on being elected a councillor, vacated the office of alderman by the fact of being elected. It was said that Mr Roberts was not elected because the returning officer did not declare him elected. It was not denied that Mr Roberts had a majority of votes, and by the Act of Parliament the duty of the returning officer was that he "shall ascertain the result of the poll by counting the votes given to each candidate, and shall forthwith declare to be elected the candidate to whom the majority of votes has been given." That was all the returning officer had to do, and the returning officer had no power to inquire whether a person was legally elected or not. He was of opinion that the announcement of the numbers was a declaration that Mr Roberts was elected. It seemed to him that every point in the case was in favour of Mr Roberts, that the peremptory mandamus ought not to have been issued, and that the appeal must be allowed.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.—The silver cup annually given at Clare College, Cambridge, for general learning, has been awarded to Mr Charles Minshall Jessop, B.A., a nephew of Alderman Minshall of Oswestry.

RE PETER FOWKE, DECEASED.—A meeting of the claimants to the estate of the late Mr Peter Fowke, was held yesterday afternoon at the King's Head Inn, Oswestry, when there was a good attendance. This case came on for hearing before Mr Justice Chitty in November last, with the result that it was dismissed. Since then the claimants have been advised that they have substantial grounds for an appeal and were called together to discuss the advisability of taking such a course. It was stated that the sum of £50 would be required to make the appeal, and after a long discussion it was decided to collect the sum mentioned and appeal against the decision of Mr Justice Chitty. The meeting adjourned.

RE-OPENING SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, RHOS-LLANERCHUGOG.—Services in connection with the re-opening of St. John's Church were held on Thursday and Friday of last week. The church has recently undergone extensive alterations. The north transept, formerly devoted to the choir and the organ, has been converted for the use of the congregation, and stalls have been erected in the chancel for the choir, while the old vestry-room has been formed into a spacious organ-chamber. The improvements have been carried out by Messrs Jenkins and Jones, Johnstown. While the accommodation gained for hearers is considerable, the arrangements for the choir are much more satisfactory, both in appearance and utility.

MR. JOSEPH HUMPHREYS'S LIBRARY.—The library of the late Mr Joseph Humphreys of Shrewsbury, was sold at the Music Hall, Shrewsbury, by Messrs Lythall, Mansell, and Walters, on Oct. 26, 27, and 28. The following were some of the prices realized:—*'Shrewsbury Election Squibs,'* 1796, and 1806-7, 31s; *'Blakeway's 'Sheriffs of Shropshire,'* £9 10s; *'Owen's 'History of Shrewsbury,'* four volumes, with 121 additional plates, and 40 pen and ink and watercolour sketches, 70s; *'Price's 'History of Oswestry,'* with cuttings from *Eddowes's Journal* relating to the same, 22s; *'Pearson's 'Antiquities of Shropshire' (1824) 38s; Bayliss's 'Views in Shropshire,' 53s; Gough's 'History of Myddle,' 22s; Owen and Blakeway's 'History of Shrewsbury,' £8; Phillips's 'History of Shrewsbury' (1779), 48s; Humphreys's 'Memorials of D. Parkes,' 60s; extracts from *Shrewsbury Chronicle* relating to Cambrian Archaeological Society's visit to Welshpool (1856), illustrated with various engravings and etchings, 36s; extracts*

from *Shrewsbury Chronicle* and *Eddowes's Journal* relating to British Archaeological Society's visit to Shrewsbury (1860), with numerous illustrations, 84s; *'Salopian Annals,'* by H. Pidgeon, £4; *MS. Book of the Sadlers' Company, Shrewsbury, 78s; MS. List of Shropshire Writers, 60s; MS. relating to Roger Owen of Condover, 38s; Corbet MSS., 40s; Montgomeryshire Collections, Vol. I. to XI., £6.*

THE WELSH SHIRES.

The following communication appears in the last number of the *Athenæum*:—

Some colour is lent to the picture of Home Rule for Wales by our continuing to group twelve shires as Wales since the reason for so grouping them has ceased.

Wales as a field for history, with her handmaid sciences of race, language, law, and religion, is immortal; Wales as a group of twelve shires was transitory, the dates of its rise and of its fall are certain.

The year 1535 found historical Wales not yet in the realm of England, under an English king's over-lordship which was weak, but also under many home rules which were strong, its people locally oppressed, its society not advancing, its commerce not increasing. In that year, by the Act 27 Henry VIII. c. 26, historical Wales was politically united as a whole to England, its Marches were sorted into shires, it was drawn within the pale of English law, and it was placed under English forms of administration. Thenceforth England and Wales grew on together, began to forget mutual jealousy, to share material prosperity, to show to every succeeding age union passing into unity.

There was an episode in this history temporarily affecting its form. The Union Act of 1535 found in historical Wales eight old shires, and created out of the Marches five new ones. It extended the judicature of England to one shire, a new one. It retained the local judicatures of the eight old shires, and created the like in the remaining four new ones. In 1543 the Act 34 and 35 Henry VIII. c. 26 replaced those twelve local judicatures by a single one for a twelve-shire province which it named 'Wales.' In 1830 the Act 11 George IV. and 1 William IV. swept away that single local judicature, and completely extended the judicature of England to historical Wales. Since 1830 there has been no more reason for grouping certain shires as 'Wales,' than for grouping other shires as East Anglia or Mercia; and there has been a reason for ceasing to group them so, namely, the clearance of a mist from the history of the old Welsh border. Yet the twelve shires are still grouped apart in books and maps, in official documents and Acts of Parliament.

Is there now any tie between Pembroke and Flint which is not between Flint and Chester? Does Glamorgan now feel the joys and griefs of Anglesey, but not those of Monmouth? Do the separate table of twelve shires in books and the line drawn along the eastern edge of their group in maps represent any useful thought or recall any stirring memory? Do they not rather hide a true nationality now belonging to history alone, and keep apart those whom all wise statesmen during three centuries and a half have striven to unite?

Already the Separatist law-maker is abroad. He has opened a breach with a twelve-shire law of liquor. He burns to widen the breach with twelve-shire laws of tithe, of rent, of land, of the Church, of Home Rule. The Unionists of 1535, who completed the number of the shires of England and Wales to fifty-two, wisely left them unclassified. The Unionists of 1886 may well leave them so.

HENRY SALUSBURY MILMAN.

BYE-GONES FOR 1887.

NOTES, QUERIES, and REPLIES, on subjects interesting to Wales and the Borders, must be addressed to EDITOR, "Bye-Gones" Caxton Press, Oswestry. Real names and addresses must be given in confidence, and MSS. must be written legibly, on one side of the paper only.

JANUARY 5, 1887.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY LADIES' CLUB (Apr. 15, 1885).—The following is from the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1819 (Vol. II., p. 448):—

Hymn.

For the Ladies' Club Female Friendly
Society, Oswestry.
¶ Air: The Evening Hymn or Suffolk Tune.

Oh! bright and blessed be the bands
That link in love our sister hands
True servants we of Him in Heav'n
To mark the "New Commandment giv'n."

Be't ours the Olive-branch to strow
And quell the tares of want and woe
Affliction's brow with palm to twine
And round the cottage coil the vine.

Our feet shall smooth the slope of age
Our hands the pangs of pain assuage
And ev'n this life shall bloom with hours
Of blessed fruits, and balmy flow'rs.

So angel sisters from above
Shall hail us to their home of Love
When Death our fading band untwines
And Heav'n's eternal Sabbath shines,

Oswestry, Nov. 3 (1819.) (ANONYMOUS.)

THE SIEGE OF CHIRK CASTLE.—The following is a copy of a letter (in the possession of Mr Myddelton Biddulph) addressed to Prince Rupert, giving an account of the siege of Chirk Castle:—

BONWM.

Chirk Castle, 1644.

To his Highnesse Prince Rupert humbly present This
May it please your Highnesse

This Gentleman journeyinge towards Oxford I most humbly beeseche Leaue, to present to your Highnesse by him an account of a late action of the Rebels: They lately beeseiged mee for three daies; Their Engineeres attempted to worke into the Castle with Iron Crowes pickers vnder greate plancks and tables which they had erected against the Castle side for their shelter; but my Stones beate them of: they acknowledged in Oswestrey they had 31: slaine, and 43: others hurt: their prime

Engineere was slaine by the Castle side they are very sadd for him: If your Highnesse please, this Gentleman will fully impart all the passages, Duringe the seige, to your Highnesse; hee was in the Castle with mee: I shall not presume to bee further tedious; I most humbly Kisse your Highnesse sweete hands, and will ever bee

Your Highnesse most humble and
assuredly faithfull Seruant

Chircke Castle
Dec 25th
1644.

JOHN WATTS:

ROYAL JUBILEES (Dec. 22, 1886).—At the celebration of George III.'s Jubilee, in October, 1809, Lord Brownlow "gave about £100 to the poorer families upon each of his Lordship's estates, after the rate of about 17s or 18s each."

"Few places have evinced more loyalty and attachment to their sovereign than the little village of Clyrowe in Radnorshire. A general rejoicing took place there both on Wednesday, the 25th, and on Sunday, the 29th of October, when the inhabitants were all regaled with beef and plumb pudding, and drank the King's health with affection and gratitude." (From the *English Chronicle*, Oct. and Nov., 1809.) W.O.

A lady residing at Welshpool remembers that a ball was held here to celebrate the Jubilee of George III., but believes there were no other public demonstrations.

Welshpool.

H.

NORTH WALIAN SCRAPIANA. I.—When Mr Henry Taylor first commenced his valuable "Historic Notices of Flint" he never could have dreamt it was possible to have made up so complete an account of the old town as he succeeded in accomplishing. He did not however, rest upon his well-gained honours when he had issued that volume through the press, but he continued to search for further "records," and I now see he has added the following very valuable ones to our stores of knowledge. They refer especially to Flint itself, but they form a link in the Edwardian occupations of North Wales, and may fittingly, therefore, find a place in *Bye-Gones*. Mr. Taylor says:—

In searching among the "Parliamentary Petitions" at the Record Office, I recently came across the following entries, written in Norman French:—

PARLIAMENTARY PETITIONS, No. 3.525.

The Burgesses of flynt, in Wales, shew to the King that in the late war in Wales, the town of flynt was burnt by the commandment of Sir Renand de Grey, in order to save the Castle, that the Welsh cannot have restitution for the hurt

done to the Castle, and that their goods and chattels were then destroyed, by reason of which the King commanded that an inquiry should be made by Sir Renand de Grey and Sir John de Haverhingge, and the inquiry being made, that their damages amounted to £300 and more, and that they have nothing at all.

Answer. Let them sue a writ to Lord Reginald de Grey that he may send the Inquisition taken, etc.

PARLIAMENTARY PETITIONS, No. 3,526.

The same burgesses pray the King that he will command Sir Renand de Grey that he will cease to distrain them for the farm of the town from the time of the war, when they took nothing, and also for the present time, because they did not pay anything in the way of farm until then, and that he will release or respite the farm aforesaid until such time as he will have ordained the damages that they had received for the burning aforesaid.

Answer. Let them refer it to the King.

PARLIAMENTARY PETITIONS, No. 3,527.

The same burgesses pray for the deliverance of their beasts which are impounded and detained for the aforesaid farm, and pray for a remedy for the £10 which they had given to Sir Renand de Grey to have a respite for the aforesaid farm.

Answer. As to the first article, let it be referred to the King; as to the second, Renand says that he took the aforesaid £10 in part payment of the farm, etc.

The same burgesses pray for a remedy because by permission of the same Sir Renand the villains of the King in Wales had bought land in the town, and they bake and brew contrary to their charter and usage.

Answer. Let them go to the Court of Chancery and show the Charter, and let them have a writ that the article is contained in the Charter.

I find on reference to Mr Taylor's volume, that the first Charter granted to Flint is dated 1284, and we know that Edward had peopled that town with his English retainers soon after he had erected the Castle there. He believes this "burning" must have occurred ten years later, when the Welsh rebelled against the Sovereign, and were led by Madoc, the illegitimate son of Llywelyn, the last Prince. The history of that rebellion has never been fully told, but we know enough of it to be well assured that it led to consequences of a very serious character to the Welsh people, and also to the rigid infliction upon them of English laws, which were as hateful to them as they were unwise in themselves under the peculiar circumstances of the time. If any of your correspondents can add other "records" bearing upon Madoc ap Llywelyn's revolt, they might become very serviceable to the future historians of our country.—I have tried on more than one occasion to induce Welsh antiquaries to give us some account of the Manorial Court Leets held in North Wales in past times, but so far in vain, until the other day, when I met with this note, relating to the so called Manor of Caerwys in Flintshire:—

Sir,—These are to acquaint you for some acknowledgment whom you promise for getting stones from off the Manner (Manor) or Borrow (Borough) of Caerwys. We expected you to call or send when we kept our Leed Court, the Rent Day, in the Town of Caerwys, that was the 29th of October, 1792. This from your humble ser., Edwd. Davies, Bailiff for the Lord of the Manner, your good will which I hope it will be my priviledge.

That humbly worded notice would seem to imply that the Lord of the Manor's rights were co-extensive with the boundaries of the Borough of Caerwys, and here again therefore we are in need of information of a local

character, which bears directly upon the history of the County of Flint. This last subject provides a wide scope for antiquarian inquirers, and I am assured by a friend that there are many other valuable "records" in the public offices which could be referred to with advantage.

A NORTH WALKIAN ANTIQUARY.

QUERIES.

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS.—In her interesting *Shropshire Folk-Lore*, Miss Burne mentions several old Christmas Customs which still linger, but are fast dying out. We read that "the custom of offering a mince pie and a glass of wine or ale to all visitors who may come to a house during Christmas, no matter at what hour of the day, is still kept up by old-fashioned families. There is a 'luck' about mince pies, and it is this. For every house in which any person eats a mince pie during the Twelve Days, (of Christmas), he will enjoy a happy month in the ensuing twelve months." Again, there is a saying that "as the weather is in each day of the Twelve, so will it be in the corresponding month of the year following." [Then we are in for very changeable weather in 1887.] I give an example of a custom and a saying, in the hope that further information on the subject will be sent to *Bye-Gones*. Can any reader furnish examples of old customs and sayings which are disappearing? W.O.

REPLIES.

HUGH THOMAS'S MSS. (Nov. 24, Dec. 8, 1886).—PEARMAIN'S interesting synopsis of this Herald's MSS. is about all that we can expect or extract out of such multifarious and disjointed material. The "pedigree-hunting" has been a weak point in Welsh national life of the past, but now it is reduced to more reasonable proportions, and is carried on on more scientific principles than it was 200 or 300 years ago. Still there are a good many Welsh pedigrees which are thoroughly untrustworthy, and the compilers of which have drawn largely upon their own imaginations, or at all events have treated mere tradition and hearsay evidence as fact and truth. It is of great importance that we should have true histories of the descent of land and the families who owned it, for the one illustrates the other, but it is only abuse of the sacred name of "History" to call such genealogies as Hugh Thomas's by that name. Many of these early MSS. are worth little, and it would hardly pay anyone to wade through Hugh Thomas's MSS. The authenticity and value of Hugh Thomas's MSS. has been considerably discounted by Theophilus Jones, the Brecknockshire Historian, who wrote in 1805, and again in his turn Theophilus Jones has been roughly handled by "Iolo Morganwg," who stated that there were at least 2,000—and the irascible old bard repeated, "Yes, there are two thousand errors"—in Jones's work on the county of Brecknock. There is no doubt whatever that many of the long drawn out pedigrees in Jones's work are incorrect, but it would puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer to correct them, and if Jones erred, who had not only superior sources of information at call than Hugh Thomas the Herald possessed, surely Hugh Thomas, who wrote nearly 150 years earlier, must be doubly discounted. I have

seen, and had possession for some years, of Hugh Thomas's MS., entitled "An Essay towards the History and Antiquities of Brecknock" (written in 1698) although the said MS. is stated to be still preserved in the Bodleian library. In my *Illustrated History and Biography of Brecknockshire*, I have quoted a good description of "Brecon in 1698" from this MS., and I considered this part of the MS. the most trustworthy, because Hugh Thomas lived in the town of Brecon for eight years previously to writing this essay, and therefore if he was acquainted at all with Brecknockshire history and genealogy, it is fair to assume he would be most accurate in recording the facts and surroundings of the town in which he had actually lived. But as to the major portion of the essay, the pedigrees of the early Celtic kings and princes, lords and ladies, petty chieftains and chieftainesses, well, to pervert a well-known quotation, "The Lord deliver us from *Hugh Thomas*." What with the Ap Williams, Ap Johns, David Gochs, and Einion Saises, world without end—dozens of generations of them, many of them of doubtful birth and lineage, we may be excused for not swallowing them all as pure fact, when they are really and truly absolute fiction. But I am digressing. It may interest your *Bye-Gones* readers to know that Hugh Thomas was the son of Mr Wm. Thomas, a salesman and citizen of London, of the family of Thomas, of Llanfrynach, near Brecon, and was by profession an arms painter; he was deputy herald to Sir Henry St. George, garter-principal king-at-arms in the year 1703. Thomas died in the year 1714 without issue. He left his MSS. to the Earl of Oxford. E.P.

Brecknock.

CURRENT NOTES.

The death is announced of Mr John Hughes, Llyslew Farm, near Brynysincyn, Anglesey, a well-known farmer.

Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., has presented the Rev John Davies, B.A., to the living of Bryneggwys, near Corwen. The gross value of the living is £207, house, &c.

The sermon preached at the annual meeting of the Association of the Wrexham Deanery by the Bishop of Chester has been republished by request (by Mr E. Roe of Wrexham).

This week's *British Weekly* will have a special interest for Welshmen, as it contains an article on "Welsh Church Worthies," illustrated by portraits of Dr. Lewis Edwards of Bala, Principal Edwards of Aberystwyth, and the Rev Herber Evans. The number also contains the first of a series of Interviews by Post, in which Prof. Drummond gives an account of "Natural Law in the Spiritual World."

The late Rev. J. Breeze, of Hanwood, was one of the 119 Shropshire clergymen who signed an address to the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry in 1834 praying for the remedy of proved abuses to secure to all classes the due and efficient administration of God's Holy Word and Sacraments, and against any change in the formularies of the Church of England, which the memorialists declared to embody the faith once delivered, &c. Mr Breeze was then curate of Upton Magna. Only four of 119 signatories now survive, viz., the Rev. John Evans, of Whixall; the Rev. J. D. Corbet, of Sundorne; the Rev. Henry Beckwith, of Eaton Constantine; and the Rev. R. L. Burton, of Shrewsbury.

Mr J. Lloyd Morgan, of the Temple, has written and published, through Mr Elliot Stock, a life of his father, the late Rev William Morgan, formerly Theological Tutor at Carmarthen College. It is a modest but interesting record of a career distinguished in a remarkable degree by unwavering fidelity to the principles of civil and religious liberty. Not the least important event in the career thus depicted is the discussion which took place between Mr Morgan and the late Bishop Thirlwall, occasioned, it will be remembered, by the report made by Mr Bowstead, her Majesty's Inspector, on British Schools in South Wales. Mr Lloyd Morgan has treated this matter at some length, and has included several of the most important documents in the discussion. The volume also includes a selection of sermons, and an excellent portrait.

In *Organs, Organists, and Choirs* (London: J. Curwen and Sons), Mr E. Minshall, organist and director of music at the City Temple, London, gives hints and suggestions in connection with Nonconformist Church Music. Mr Minshall, writing from a varied experience in village, town, and city, gives advice as to the purchase of an organ, the choice of organist, the formation of a choir, Choral Festivals, &c., and in one section deals with "Needed Musical Reforms." In this chapter the old question, whether the choir should sometimes sing to the congregation, is discussed, and the following pertinent reply is given to a familiar objection:—

I think something more might be done in the way of singing to the congregation, they being simply listeners. All, or nearly all anthems should be sung by the choir alone, for very few congregations can sing them correctly, and the attempt to join in spoils the effect. It is much better, therefore, that the congregation should worship with the heart, rather than with the lips. Some, I know, say this arrangement would make the anthem a performance and not worship, but is it necessary to take part audibly, in order to worship? If so, the prayer is not worship and the sermon is a performance. Many who object to choir or solo singing, travelled miles to hear Mr Sankey sing some of his favourite melodies, and came away in raptures. But why should his singing be worship, and the choir's rendering, say of Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer," a mere performance, and consequently objectionable.

Mr Minshall's remarks are illustrated with musical notation, and his clear exposition will make this little book all the more useful and acceptable.

A History of Ancient Tenures of Land in the Marches of North Wales. By A. N. Palmer. (Wrexham and Oswestry: Woodall, Minshall, and Co.) For obvious reasons we hesitate to give our own review of this little work, and substitute a criticism which appeared in the *Athenaeum* in May last:—"The promise given by Mr Palmer's little brochure on the 'Town, Fields, and Folk of Wrexham in the Time of James the First' is more than fulfilled in the present treatise. Mr Palmer's work possesses that value which is inseparable from the original research of a careful and qualified student in a field with which he is thoroughly familiar, and comprises features of special interest. The district of Maelor, originally divided between 'Maelor Uchaf' (Upper Maelor) and 'Maelor Isaf' (Lower Maelor) now consists of 'Maelor Gymraeg' (Welsh Maelor) and 'Maelor Saesneg' (English Maelor), and by tracing the ebb and flow of English conquest over this district Mr Palmer is enabled to throw new light on that extremely difficult, but important subject, the rise of the manorial system. Readers of Mr Seeborn's well-known work will remember the admirable use he makes of what he terms the Welsh evidence in dealing with the history of the English land system. We strongly advise all those who may wish to pursue the subject to study Mr Palmer's treatise. It may be doubted whether any im-

portant contribution to our knowledge of the development of land tenure in England can ever be made except by those who, while possessing a general knowledge of the subject, concentrate their attention, like Mr Seeborn or Mr Palmer, on some particular district, the phenomena in which they can thoroughly master, for in this study the great requisite is minute and conscientious thoroughness. Among the points specially treated of by Mr Palmer are the traces of "quillets" or "errowes" (the Welsh "quillet" being spoken of as an "erw," just as the English "land" was known as an "acre") in the old open fields; the common meadows and common pasture; the demesne; and the detached portions of townships. An almost startling relic of the Mark system "only ceased," we learn, "to be observed in the hundred of Bromfield within the last forty years." This was that of the cabanau un nos, scores of which, Mr Palmer tells us, are "still surviving in the district." It "recognized the right of any resident" (i.e., originally, of course, a member of the Mark community) "newly married to the cottage which he had himself, with the help of his friends, built upon the wasteland of the township in a single night." Among the pieces in the appendix we may notice the agreement for the enclosure and allotment of a "common wood" as recently as 1846, and some notes on the names of townships in Bromfield, where Welsh and English forms are curiously intermixed. In the latter we observe one of the very few slips to be found in Mr Palmer's work. It is not a fact "that Bures, in Essex, takes its name from a moated mound that may still be seen there." It is "Mount Bures" that so takes it. We hope that Mr Palmer may meet with sufficient encouragement in his efforts to proceed with his contemplated "History of Wrexham," to which the present essay is introductory. As our readers know, Mr Palmer has proceeded with his work, and his History of Wrexham Church will shortly be published by Messrs Woodall, Minshall, and Co., of Wrexham and Oswestry.

THE OSWESTRY CORPORATION PLATE.

At the Oswestry Town Council Meeting on Monday the Mayor said he had brought Hugh Myddelton's cup there in order that they might decide whether it should be repaired. It was exhibited at the Art Loan Exhibition, and Mr Stanley Leighton suggested that it should be repaired.—On the motion of Mr Evans, seconded by Mr Cartwright, it was decided that it should be repaired.—The Mayor said some of the plate were provided with boxes, and others were not. Hugh Myddelton's cup was one of the most valuable, but there was no box for it.—It was agreed that boxes should be provided for the plate.—The Mayor also gave notice that he should bring forward the question of providing a safe in which to deposit the plate.—Mr Parry said the plate was in the custody of the Mayor for the time being, and the annual removal of a safe would involve a good deal of labour and trouble.

ART LOAN EXHIBITION AT WEM.

On Wednesday and Thursday an exhibition of works of art and articles of interest and curiosity was held in the National Schoolroom, the proceeds to go towards the formation of a Working Men's Club in Wem. The patrons were—Viscount Hill, Sir W M Honyman, Bart, Sir Vincent Corbet, Bart, Rev Harry Vane Russell, M.A., Mr A C Herber Percy, Rev G H Egerton, M.A., Captain Cotton, Captain Dickinson, Rev J B Walton, B.A., LL.B., Mr Vere Somerset, Mr Thos. Maddocks, Mr J A Clegg, Mr Charles Dugdale. The following were the committee:—Messrs R Franklin, W Maddocks, Anthony, S Butler, J Kynaston, Bowcock, B Faraday Giles, M.D., and Phillip Lee, honorary secretary. The exhibits were very interesting. The following were the principal exhibitors:—The Right Hon. Viscount Hill, whose collection contained a quantity of old armour, and relics of the Battle of Waterloo and the Peninsular Wars. Mr J J Bibby's collection included some very beautiful and rare articles, and the same remarks apply to those of the Rev and Mrs Harry Vane Russell, Rev J Hill, Cita-

del, Mr E G Vaughan, Burlton Hall, Captain Dickinson, Mr Nicholas Robinson, Sir W M Honyman, Bart, Mr Vere Somerset, Capt Maddocks, Revs. Messrs Egerton, Middle, Addenbrook, Preses. Hope, Newtown, and Benson, Loppington, Captain Hill, Mr Williams, Hawkstone Hotel. Mrs Mainwaring, Oteley Park, exhibited a large and choice collection of English and foreign lace. Mrs Edwards, Sandy-lane, exhibited a fine collection of old English coins, so also did Mrs Moseley, Wem, Mrs B Gwynn, Miss M Boulton, Mrs Menlove, and Mr Strong. A large number of the other exhibits are worthy of mention, but as the articles exhibited numbered upwards of 1,000, we cannot notice all of them in detail. The following are the names of some of the other exhibitors:—Dr Giles, the Rev J B Walton, B.A., LL.B., Mr John Hall, Captain Cotton, Mr W Lucas, Miss Butenson, Miss Whitfield, Mrs Turner, Miss Clay, Mrs Seacombe, Miss Kendrick, Mrs Owen, Miss Jebb, Miss Davies, Mrs Maddocks, Rose Villa, Mrs Rayner, Mrs Bailey, Miss Horseley, Mrs E Tomlin, Mrs Vaughan, Mrs Mason, Mrs Prince, Miss Broomhall, Miss Mathews, Mrs Brown, Miss Duckers, Miss Francis, Mrs Abbott, Miss Russell, Noble-street. Mr J Franklin exhibited a choice lot of old china, &c, amongst which was a handsomely-painted punch bowl, purchased at the sale of the late Mr John Mytton of Halston; and Mr S Butler some handsome old china and coins. The following also exhibited choice and costly articles, both of foreign and English production:—Messrs Mears, Clive, J Thornly, Lees, W Maddocks, G H Morgan, Southam, Shrewsbury, A Gill, Shrewsbury, G H Keyworth, F Hill, Edstaston Hall, C F Griffiths, J Minor, T Wood, Aston Park, A Lowcock, Trench Hall, Adams, Noneley, Adams, Wem, H Kynaston, J Kynaston, Jarvis, Horton, C H Kynaston, Bellis, Jeffries, Ronald, P Lee, G Rutter, Strong, Heatley, Davies, Foxley, Cope, Francis, Ellis, Bentley, Jukes, Thomas, Chidley, Bowcock, Butler, Whixall, S Smith, Sergeant-Major Boot, Heath, Cartwright, E Weaver, Hewitt, Bridge, Rogers, and Roberts, Preses Wood. The attendance was pretty good on the whole, and it is hoped that a satisfactory balance will be handed over to the treasurer. During the exhibition Miss Franklin presided at the piano, and Miss May Franklin played some selections in fine style on the violin. Acknowledgment is due to the committee and the hon. secretaries for the manner in which they carried the exhibition to a successful termination.

The Late Mr. R. M. Harrison.

It is with regret that we record the death of Mr Robert Mostyn Harrison of Welshpool, brother of the Clerk of the Peace for the county. About 12 months ago, we believe, Mr Harrison had an attack of typhoid fever, after which he was never quite as strong a man as before; but he enjoyed good health, and attended the Dispensary Ball on Tuesday, Dec. 28. On Wednesday he was taken ill, and died at ten o'clock on Monday night at Nantcribba Hall, to the great grief of his family and friends, and the sincere regret of a large number of his fellow townsmen, amongst whom his amiable character and winning manners had won for him the greatest popularity. Mr Harrison was the youngest son of the late Mr Robert Devereux Harrison, and was married on the 28th July, 1886, to Miss Forbes of Nantcribba. The deceased gentleman was well known, and very popular in the hunting and the cricket field, where he often distinguished himself.

The Late Canon Butler, F.R.G.S.

We regret to announce the death, on Wednesday last, from chronic bronchitis, of the Rev Thomas Butler, F.R.G.S., and Canon of Lincoln Cathedral. The late Canon Butler was youngest child and only son of Dr Samuel Butler, for many years Head-Master of the Grammar Schools in Shrewsbury, and afterwards Bishop of Lichfield. At Cambridge he was honourably mentioned in the examination for the Bell Scholarship in 1826, was 20th senior optime in the Mathematical Tripos for 1829, and seventh in the first-class of the Classical Tripos for the same year—the present Duke of Devonshire, then Mr Cavendish, being placed next below him. In 1831 he married Fanny, third daughter of the late Mr John Worsley of Bristol. In 1829 he

was ordained deacon, and in 1830 priest. From 1829 to 1834 he was curate to his brother-in-law, the late Archdeacon Bather of Meole Brace; he was also during these years assistant-master at the Grammar Schools, under his father. Both these duties he discharged with unobtrusive conscientiousness. In 1834 he was offered the living of Langar, in Nottinghamshire, by the late Lord Brougham, then Lord Chancellor; having accepted this preferment he left Shrewsbury, and for the next forty-two years devoted himself to the work of his parish. He almost rebuilt his church, largely at his own expense. He was appointed Rural Dean of Bingham in 1855 by Bishop Jackson, then Bishop of Lincoln, and Canon of Lincoln in 1868. Upon resigning the living at Langar in 1876 he returned to Shrewsbury, and there took a very active interest in the Museum and Free Library, towards which he was a liberal contributor both of time and money. He was a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society; but botany was the science to which he was most ardently devoted. He found the botanical collection at the Museum very defective, the plants for the most part unmounted and decaying, and large gaps existing in every order that urgently wanted filling up. For the last ten years Canon Butler, as one of the botanical curators of the Museum, occupied himself in making the Shrewsbury herbarium one of the finest collections in the kingdom. He mounted with his own hands and named about sixty-five volumes of plants, each containing from forty to fifty specimens. Many of these plants he has supplied, as well as named and mounted, and the amount of labour involved in this task can only be appreciated by those who actually inspect the rows of volumes as they stand on their shelves in the natural history room of the Museum. Canon Butler wrote for the Travellers' Edition of the *Gossiping Guide to Wales* an interesting account of a botanical ramble in Snowdonia. Besides being a manager of Holy Trinity Schools, he was a member of the local committee of the Shrewsbury School Board. The Children's Home in Montague-place, which was founded by his daughter in 1882, will long miss his kindly smile, as well as his clear-sighted advice and liberal help. His last public act was to lay the foundation stone of the new nave for Holy Trinity Church, to which he was a liberal subscriber.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

COUNTY MEETING AT SHREWSBURY.

On Monday afternoon a meeting convened by the High Sheriff (Arthur Sparrow, Esq.), was held in the Shirehall, Shrewsbury, to consider and decide what steps should be taken to celebrate the Jubilee of her Majesty the Queen. A large number of magistrates, most of whom were present at Quarter Sessions, attended the meeting, and besides, the Mayors and members of the Corporations of the Shropshire Boroughs, as well as a large body of the general public, were present.

The HIGH SHERIFF of the County (Mr A. Sparrow), in opening the proceedings, said he was sure it was with the approbation and with the approval of the county of Salop that he had called that public meeting to consider what steps should be taken to celebrate the Jubilee of her Majesty the Queen. Shropshire at all times had been a loyal county—(hear, hear),—and he was quite sure the Queen had no more devoted and loyal subjects than the inhabitants of the county of Salop. (Applause.) He was certain that they would wish to give expression to that feeling of loyalty in some tangible form. On an occasion like the present, when the Queen had reached the 50th year of her beneficent reign, it was perhaps not too much to say that the last fifty years had been more pregnant in events than any previous fifty years

in the history of this country since William the Conqueror fought the battle of Hastings. He might say that the greatly improved prosperity of the country had more or less affected every class of the community. How great had been the changes caused by the making of railways, the telegraph, and numerous other inventions, which had revolutionized every industry of this country. All these changes had taken place within the last fifty years, and they would always be identified with the reign of Queen Victoria, and when that was so, it would be said that the prosperity of this country was mainly due to the wise counsels and the noble example the Queen herself had set to her subjects. (Applause.) When they looked abroad, they had great reason to be thankful. Whilst other countries had been more or less devastated by war, whilst dynasties had fallen, this country had been spared, and the Queen's throne had remained firm, because that throne rested upon the love and affection of her subjects. (Cheers.) They might not think it desirable or possible for that meeting to decide upon the form of the celebration of the Jubilee, and he took it that it would be better to appoint a committee that would be representative not only of the county, but of the different boroughs, and the committee should be left to decide what steps should be taken to celebrate the Jubilee in a suitable manner, and also to collect subscriptions. He would only add that he hoped that in the main the celebration might take a local form—(applause)—so that the county might have in future years some good work to point to as the commemoration of the Jubilee. He did not think it necessary to detain them, and he would call the Lord Lieutenant to move the first resolution. (Applause.)

LORD BRADFORD, who was received with cheers, said all present would be agreed that in some way or other, in some very suitable way he hoped, her Majesty's Jubilee should be celebrated. On the 18th of November he had received a letter from his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, asking him to call the attention of the inhabitants of the county of Salop to one proposal which his Royal Highness had in view for celebrating this great event. The mayors of the various towns had, he believed, received a similar letter, and in conference with the worthy Mayor of Shrewsbury, he had ventured to ask the High Sheriff of the county to summon a meeting at which the subject could be considered in its various bearings. While, as he had said, he had little doubt that all would be agreed, all classes, all ages, all sections of the subjects of her Majesty, in celebrating in some way the Jubilee of her reign, yet he felt quite sure that there must be various differences of opinion as to the form the celebration should take. The High Sheriff had let drop an expression that he hoped some local recollection would be made of the event. (Hear, hear.) He cordially agreed with that. (Cheers.) At the same time he must remind them that he was particularly desired by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to call their attention to some of the peculiar circumstances connected with the 50th year of her Majesty's reign. In the whole history of this country there had been only four sovereigns who had reigned 50 years, and in the cases of the three predecessors of her Majesty, the fifty years' reign had been technical and nominal rather than practical and real, and the present Queen was the only sovereign who, if she lived until the 20th of June next, as please God she might—(cheers)—would have reigned for fifty years. During those fifty years it was not perhaps too much to say that greater scientific and material advances had been made than in any other period of the history of the world, and the powers of the human mind over time and over space had been increased in the most marvellous degree. The conditions

under which the British nation was governed, and under which it must flourish, if it flourished at all, were enormously altered by the inventions of science and by the power which mankind now had gained by the discovery of the uses of steam and electricity. It had become a great political question, and the deepest thinkers of our fellow-countrymen were doing all in their power to devise means of knitting together the distant parts of this empire, to unite in friendly union all the English-speaking colonies of the world, and also the great Indian empire of which the Queen was the empress. That being so, the present appeared to be a time when some effort should be made to create, so to speak, some great memorial federation of the colonies with the mother country, and such a scheme was recommended by his Royal Highness in the letter which he had addressed to all the Lords-Lieutenant and Mayors throughout the country. Whilst they sincerely joined in the resolution he proposed, to the effect "that it is desirable that the Jubilee of her Majesty the Queen be celebrated in this county and town in some fitting manner, to be hereafter decided upon by a committee now to be appointed," at the same time, he expressed a hope that they would take into consideration the proposal which had been made that some of the fund raised might be given to the central subscription list, which was established at the Mansion House in London, for the purpose of assisting to unite in friendly terms the colonies of this country to the mother country. (Applause.) He thought they should be entirely united in wishing to do honour to the 50th year of Her Majesty's reign, and he thought they would honour it all the more by a spontaneous expression of their various views as to how that great event should be best and most popularly celebrated. (Cheers.)

Lord POWIS, who was received with applause, said he rose to second the resolution which had been proposed by the Lord Lieutenant. Lord Bradford had very succinctly and very clearly stated the different aspects in which the event of the Queen's Jubilee came home to a.l. In the first place, the personal regard Her Majesty had evoked during her long reign brought the event home to the individuals, to the families, to all classes, even the most humble. Then we had the feeling that each neighbourhood or each county should in some manner celebrate and enable the inhabitants to celebrate this event; and lastly, there was the feeling that as a nation and as an empire, England, her colonies and dependencies, should all take some part, hand in hand, in celebrating this great occasion. (Cheers.) The contributions which would be asked for, and which would be necessary to carry this out, would have to be apportioned to those several objects, and it seemed to him that appointing a committee, such as would be suggested to them in a subsequent resolution, representing as far as possible the various classes and interests of the community, would be the most satisfactory manner of producing a plan which might be confidently tendered for general acceptance. Those who had travelled through North Wales would recollect the obelisk on the top of Moel Famau which was raised at the time of the Jubilee of George III. That was a public memorial. Many other sorts of public memorials were now in fashion, some tending to join beneficent social objects with the commemoration of events, and the style of the memorial and the manner in which the neighbourhood, small and large, shall join and take part together to celebrate this event would be most likely referred to such committee as he had spoken of. Thus they would be enabled to come to some conclusion, and produce a scheme worthy of the county of Salop. (Cheers.)—The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr A. SALWEY proposed, "That the following gentlemen be appointed a Committee to consider in what form the

Jubilee of her Majesty the Queen should be celebrated in this county and borough, and to take the necessary steps for the carrying out of such celebration, and for the purpose of collecting subscriptions, and do all other things necessary, and that the Committee have power to add to their number:—The Lord-Lieutenant of the County, the High Sheriffs for 1886 and 1887, the chairmen of Quarter Sessions, the members of Parliament for the county and borough, the chairman of each Petty Sessional Division in the county, the Mayors of the several municipal boroughs in the county, the aldermen and two senior councillors of every ward in the boroughs of Salop, the Archdeacon of Salop, the Proctor for the Clergy of Salop, the Proctor for the Clergy of Ludlow, the Rural Dean of Oswestry, the Canon of the Catholic Cathedral Church, Shrewsbury, the incumbents of the five ancient parishes in the borough, the ministers of the following chapels:—Congregational Chapel, Swan Hill, Unitarian Chapel, High Street, and the Presbyterian Chapel, Frankwell; the colonel commanding the dépôt centre, Shrewsbury, the commanding officers of the Shropshire Yeomanry Cavalry, the Shropshire Militia, the Shropshire Batteries of the Artillery Volunteers, the two battalions of the Rifle Volunteers; inspector of schools for the county of Salop; and further that it be an instruction to the Committee to secure an adequate representation on the Committee of the labouring classes."

The Mayor of Shrewsbury (Mr G. B. LLOYD), seconded the resolution which, after some discussion, was unanimously agreed to.

In the course of the discussion, Mr ALFRED SALWEY said that though they wished the fund which was to be raised to be thoroughly representative of the whole county, they must leave each locality quite free with respect to funds raised in that locality. His opinion was that if the funds were raised in each locality they ought to be spent in each locality, only he would ask them to send in a certain contribution to the object to which the Lord-Lieutenant had called attention. (Cheers.)

The MAYOR OF OSWESTRY (Mr W. H. LACON) pointed out that some of the Nonconformist ministers in Shrewsbury were to be invited to act upon the Committee, and asked why ministers in the other boroughs should not be asked also. Either all should be omitted or all should be asked.

Lord BRADFORD pointed out that the power given to the Committee to add to their number would meet this difficulty, and if there was any eminent Nonconformist minister who would like to assist, if his name was mentioned by the Mayor of the borough the Committee would be glad to receive him.

Mr STANLEY LEIGHTON, who was received with cheers, said he had the honour to propose the third resolution, which was to this effect:—"That the Committee be requested to grant such portion of any fund that may be raised, they may deem right, and forward the same to the central fund at the Mansion House, London, in aid of the Memorial Institute of the Colonies and India." It appeared very clear from what they had heard that day that there were *quot homines tot sententie*, that there were many ways of allocating the money which might be raised for the Jubilee, as every locality had its pet scheme, and indeed ought to have, and an opportunity would be offered to every public man in the county to subscribe to a good object in almost every part of the county during the coming year, a fact which he was perfectly certain he would look forward to with the greatest pleasure. (Laughter.) They ought, nevertheless, although they might allocate their subscriptions to the various localities, they ought to be able to show that they could act as a county in perfect unity, and that they could act not only as a county, but that

they could act with the whole of England, with the whole, as it were, of the British race, and the only way in which they could do this was to join in the national method of celebrating the Jubilee of Her Gracious Majesty. One of the most national, one of the most imperial proposals which had been made was that which came before them through His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and was brought before the county by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant—Lord Bradford. Therefore, he thought that he should carry the meeting with him when he suggested that some portion, not all, but some portion of the money which was collected, should be devoted to that imperial scheme, for, let them remember, Shropshire was not large enough for Shropshire men, nor was England alone large enough for the English race. (Hear, hear.) Every portion of the globe belonged, as it were, to a certain extent to us, and was developed to a certain extent by Englishmen, but above and beyond all were those portions of the world which belonged to our own colonial empire. He begged, therefore, to propose the resolution for their acceptance.

The motion was seconded by Archdeacon LLOYD and carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Lord BRADFORD, closed the proceedings.

MEETING AT LLANGOLLEN.

On Monday evening a public meeting was held in the Assembly Room, convened by Captain Best, as chairman of the Local Board, in obedience to two numerous signed requisitions, for the purpose of considering what steps shall be taken to commemorate the Jubilee of her Majesty's reign. Captain Best presided, and after briefly opening the meeting, he expressed a desire that any one who had any scheme to propose, should do so.—Mr Spurring, churchwarden, proposed that the scheme now promulgated by the Vicar of Llangollen for fixing up a peal of bells in the church tower be considered.—Mr Nanson, church warden, seconded.—On being put to the meeting, the only hands put up in favour of it were those of the proposer and seconder.—The Rev. Gethin Davies proposed that the Jubilee should be celebrated by improving the bank of the Dee close to the town, and making an attractive promenade along the same.—Mr Lettsome seconded.—Mr John Davies, ironmonger, proposed that the Dee bridge be widened.—Seconded by Mr Edward Edwards.—The latter on being put to the meeting was supported by a show of three hands, and the motion in favour of an embankment was carried by an overwhelming majority. The following were elected a committee to carry out the proposal:—Rev. Gethin Davies, Messrs R. Darlington, W. H. Davies, W. Jones, E. Roberts, John Rowland, Robert Hughes, Ellis Evans, Abbey Road, E. Edwards, E. Lettsome, and E. Fussall. The public meeting was adjourned to receive the report of the executive. It is stated that a number of handsome subscriptions have been received in aid of the movement for furnishing the peal of bells.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

MR. PHILLIMORE ON THE WELSH TRIADS.

Continued (August 18, 1886).

The next event, of those recorded in Welsh historical documents, mentioned in the Triads is the celebrated battle of Camlan, of which the "Old Annales Cambrie" say that it took place in the year 537, and that both Arthur and Mordred met their death there. The allusions made to this in the Triads, bear however, such marks of being of a legendary character, that I shall not consider them under the Historical but under the Legendary

allusions of the Triads. Of the earliest recorded struggles between the Northern or Cumbrian Welsh against Ida, the first historical king of the Angles of Bernicia, whose reign lasted from 547 to 559, the Triads tell us nothing. From the short chronicle already referred to, we know that they resulted in the Angles' wresting from the Welsh the coast stronghold of Dinwarwy, which afterwards, under the name of Bamborough, became the capital of Anglian Bernicia; and that a king called Dutigern (which would now be Dudeyrn, but which should perhaps be Ontigern, a known Welsh name, which would now be Endeyrn, but of whom in either case we know nothing from other sources), bravely fought against the nation of the Angles. This contest appears to have been followed by a brief lull in the war between the two races, apparently employed by some of the Cumbrian chiefs for the purpose of fighting among themselves in a district then probably remote from the encroachments of the English. This war is not alluded to in the little Welsh Chronicle or in any other strictly historical document, except the "Annales Cambrie," which mentions its culminating point, the battle of Ardrydd, as having taken place in 573. On this battle a certain amount of light, though far from as much as we could desire, is thrown by the Triads and other sources of a semi-historical character. That the battle was a great and important one, is shown clearly enough both by its mention in the Annales which contain very few entries relating to the Welsh history of the 6th century, and by its great prominence in Welsh tradition, including the Cumbrian traditions embodied in the Life of St. Kentigern. It is a most singular circumstance, however, that though we know its exact locality, with complete certainty, and the names of some of the persons who took part in it with tolerable certainty, we should still be so entirely in the dark as to its causes and—except in so far as we are enabled to infer that it was a civil war—its political significance. We know from the old Cumbrian tradition fortunately preserved in the Scotch chronicon, where Myrddin Wyllt or Myrddin Sylvestris is made to speak of the battle to St. Kentigern or Cyndeyrn, that it took place at the place now called Arthuret, in Liddelsdale, now on the frontiers of England and Scotland, and a few miles north of Carlisle. In the name Arthuret we may easily recognize the Welsh "Arderydd," slightly modified by the influence of English accent and pronunciation. Mr Skene's Ardderydd, is one of deliberate alteration, not unusual in the pages of that writer, made in order to make the name harmonize better with the modern Arthuret, as pointed out by Professor Powel in a recent number of "Y Cymmrodor." The oldest form is Armterid, this became Ardderydd and so Ardderydd. The Historical Triads give us the additional information that the exact spot was called Rhodwydd Ardderydd, the mound of Arthuret; the name Rhodwydd "a tumulus," occurs in the Book of Llandaff, and is one still not unknown in the topography of North Wales, as in Tomen y Rhodwy not far from Llangollen, and perhaps in Rhodo-Geidio (Ceidio's mound). As to the parties between whom it took place the older Annales Cambrie of the 10th century tell us nothing, but one of the later chronicles to which this title has also been applied, written before 1300, and now in the Record Office, add that the battle was "between the sons of Eliffer and Gwenddoleu, the son of Ceidio, in which battle Gwenddoleu fell, and Merlin was driven 'mad.'" From a slightly later entry in the old Annales, universally supported by the Welsh genealogies, we know that the sons of Eliffer were Gwrgi and Peredur, who fell in another battle, which I shall have occasion to mention later, seven years after the battle of Ardderydd. The name of Gwenddoleu is well known in Welsh poetical tradition as

a patron of the bards, and especially of Merddin. The story that Merddin went mad in consequence of the battle of Ardudd and fled into the forest and desert places, which has given him in Welsh the epithet of "Wyllt," or the wild, is found not only in Welsh poetry but also in the native Scotch, or rather Cumbrian, tradition already mentioned, which also relates that he was buried at Drummelsier on the Tweed. This tradition, however, does not mention Gwenddoleu, nor do the Triads mention Myrddin in connection with this battle, while the Welsh poems put into the mouth of Myrddin represent him as having intimate relations both with Gwenddoleu and with Rhydderch Hael in a way which is very puzzling. In fact, it is tolerably clear that these poems are largely based on traditions now hopelessly lost. Now let us see what the Triads say about the battle of Ardudd. The Triad of the "tri diweir teulu" (three loyal retinues), which, by the way, existed as early as 1159, for it is alluded to in Cynddelw's poem on the death of Madog ab Meredudd, who died in that year, mentions among them the retinue of Gwenddoleu at Ardudd, adding that they continued the fight for six weeks after their lord was slain. Another Triad, that of the "tri march-lwyth" (three horse loads) seems to refer to a mythical tale about the battle of Ardudd now lost. It says that the second of these horse loads was that carried by Corfan, the steed of the sons of Eliffer Gogorddfawr, which carried Gwrgi and Peredur on its back, and no one overtook it but Dingad, the son of Cynan Garwyn, riding on the steed called "Cethin Cyflym" (the dark swift), and Arfidod (and reproach has attached to him for this till this day), and Dunodffur (the wise), the son of Pabo, and Cynfelyn Drwsgl, to behold the funeral pile of the army of Gwenddoleu at Ardudd. The language of this Triad is rather obscure. It is not at all clear to me whether Arfidod (Aruidiawt in the original) is a man's or horse's name, or what or why *anghlo*d or reproach should have attached to a horse for its speed or to Dingad for his feats of horsemanship; for the rest, apparently, the writer means to say that Dunod and Cynfelyn formed part of the Marchlwyth; and what has preceded, about the persons who overtook the horse Corfan is to be treated as a parenthesis. The notice contained in this Triad, though mythical in its narrative, is incidentally of historical value in two or three ways. It shows the completeness of the defeat, and the vastness of the slaughter which Welsh tradition connected with this battle. It is one of the many independent pieces of testimony (chiefly to be found in the oldest Welsh poetry) that the Welsh of this period burnt those who fell, or at least some of them, on the field of battle. So in the Book of Taliessin mention is made of the air being darkened and the light obscured by the funeral pile of one Rhun:

Mygedorth Rhun yssef a wg
Rhwing Dineiddyn a Dineiddwg.

To judge from the fine epithet Mab Coelcerth applied by the writer or the person who purports to be the writer of the Gododin to himself in his captivity, which can only bear the meaning of "destined as I was to be burnt," it also seems to have been the custom of a victorious Welsh host in the 6th or 7th century to slaughter their prisoners and burn them on a great pyre perhaps as an offering to the spirits of their own slaughtered chiefs. I may add the well known passage of the poem which undoubtedly refers to Dyfnwal Frych, slain by Owen, King of the Cumbrian Britons, in 642, where the host of Cantire, i.e., the tribesmen of Dyfnwal, whose clan was located in that district, are described as descending as a sacrifice to the Coelcerth (Aberth am goelcerth y disgynyn) which can

only mean that they were predestined to be burnt after the battle at which we know them to have fallen. This Triad is also interesting on account of the persons that it names as living in 573, some of whom are actually shown from other sources to have been contemporaries of Gwenddoleu, namely, Gwrgi and Peredur, already mentioned, Dunod if he is the Dunant Rex, King Dunod, whose death the Annales Cambriae placed in 595 (supposed to be the same as Dunod who met Augustine in conference), and Dingad, son of Cynan Garwyn of Powys, whose brother Selyf is recorded by the above quoted authority and the Irish Annals to have fallen at Chester in 613. It will be noted that this Triad apparently contradicts the authority previously cited in making Gwrgi and Peredur not actors in but merely spectators of the battle.

(To be continued.)

The Late Rev. J. Cashel, M.A.

One of the most familiar faces will be seen no more in the streets of Oswestry. It is between thirty-five and thirty-six years ago since Mr Cashel came to take up the charge of Trinity Church, and during the whole of that period, until his last prolonged illness, he had been almost constantly engaged in the duties of his office. A few months ago he was prostrated with illness, and not long after the bells had rung the new year in he passed away from the scene where almost all his working days had been spent. His devotion to the service of religion in its various forms, his visits to his flock, and his attendance at the day school, constantly took him among his fellow-townsmen, until he became one of the best known amongst them; and comparatively few are left who were engaged in public life when Mr Cashel first came to Oswestry. He was a convinced member of the Evangelical Party, which in his younger days had so much influence and exercised so much power in the Church, and he sometimes associated with ministers of other Communions in support of general religious societies, like the Bible Society, as well as in more private meetings; but of late he had worked more entirely within the limits of the Church of England, to which he was profoundly attached, and in whose service he was willing to spend himself and be spent. His congregation always found him at his post, ready for any duty, and whoever his successor may be, he cannot well excel Mr Cashel in the zealous discharge of those sacred functions which he held in so much reverence and affection.

The Rev. Frederick Cashel, M.A., Honorary Canon of St. Asaph, was born at Dublin in 1819, and educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he took a first class in Divinity, and his B.A. degree in 1842, passing on to M.A. in 1873. In 1843, he was ordained curate of Forkhill, in 1846 he removed to Taztaraghan, in the Diocese of Armagh, and in 1849 to Norton, in the Diocese of Durham. In 1850, he married Anne Carter, daughter of the Dean of Tuam and Rector of Ballymore, Co. Armagh, and in 1851, on the removal of the Rev. John Jones to Llanarmon-yn-Ial, the Rev. T. Salway presented Mr Cashel to the living of Trinity, of which he was the third incumbent, the Rev. R. B. M. Bonnor, afterwards Dean of St. Asaph, having been the first (1837 to 1842). At the time of Mr Cashel's appointment, the value of Trinity was only about £150 per annum, and the Church was not used for the solemnization of marriages, baptisms, and funerals, but in 1866 the necessary order was issued for those purposes; and in 1872 Lord Powis generously gave up the rectorial tithes of Middleton to augment the income, by which means, together with a grant from the Ecclesiastical Commis-

sioners, it was raised to £310. Before this, a subscription had been raised to provide the Vicarage in Salop-road, where Mr Cashel resided for the last nineteen or twenty years of his life.

During his vicariate several improvements were effected in the church and parish. In 1856, a new ceiling was erected at a cost of £600, borne chiefly by Mr T. L. Longueville, who, with the late Mr Parker, and Lord Powis, has been a munificent supporter of the church. In 1871 an organ was placed in the building; and in 1876 a considerable sum was spent in improvements, the completion of which was celebrated by an octave of services, at which, amongst others, the preachers were the Bishop of St. Asaph, and Mr Cashel's old friend, the Rev. George Cuthbert, who was senior curate for several years at Oswestry Parish Church, and who predeceased the late Vicar of Trinity. In 1868, a day school was erected in Castle-street, and in 1870 it was enlarged by the addition of an infant class-room. Mr Cashel always took a great interest in the school, and he was one of the first members of the Oswestry School Board, from which he retired in 1883. A few years ago he was made an honorary canon of St. Asaph. Though we believe he sympathized with the Conservative party, he abstained from any active part in politics, and indeed confined himself almost entirely to work connected with the Church and education.

For some time before his death Mr Cashel's health had caused a good deal of anxiety to his friends. The last time he officiated at Trinity Church was on the 18th of July, when he preached a powerful sermon from St. Luke vi., 41, 42. On the same day he preached at Maesbury in the evening, and on his return was taken so seriously ill that he had to remain upstairs for a few days. On July 29 he had sufficiently recovered to leave for Dublin, where he stayed about a fortnight, and then he visited Harrogate, returning to Oswestry on September 21. The change evidently did him little good, and shortly after his return he again took to his bed, and was laid up for six weeks. At the end of this time, however, he appeared very much better; in fact he was restored to such a state of health that prayers of thanksgiving were offered in his church for his partial recovery. Still he went out very little, and on one occasion it is related of him how being in the church almost alone he ascended the pulpit, and looking round the building in which he had so many times preached, he seemed to feel that he should never stand in that place again. When his illness first came on he was in the middle of a course of sermons which he had been preaching upon the Ten Commandments, and his plain and outspoken language had attracted considerable attention. His last public appearance as vicar of the parish was on the 7th of December, when he was present at a District Visitors' meeting, which was held at the Vicarage. Towards the end of that week he again broke down, and he kept his bed almost entirely from then until his death. No one, not even the faithful wife who had watched him through a long illness, realized that the end was so near; and without any apparent change he passed away in his sleep between five and six o'clock on Saturday evening.

JANUARY 12, 1887.

NOTES.

FOLK LORE.—A GOOD BARGAIN REFUSED LEADS TO BAD LUCK.—It was only lately that I heard it said that an over-reaching person was generally punished for his greediness by some misfortune overtaking the object of his covetousness. The circumstances

connected with this particular case were the following:—A farmer took a good horse to the fair, and was offered a good price for it, but instead of selling there and then he took the horse home, expecting to sell it at a bigger figure, but it became unmanageable, and the owner sold it at the next fair or so for about half the sum he had been offered for it a while before. When relating the loss he had thus sustained, he uttered the sage remark: that he ought to have sold the horse when offered a fair price, for no luck, said he, comes of refusing a good and fair bargain. I have heard a like remark made about wheat. A farmer, whom I knew, would not sell his wheat at the market price, which was really a good one, expecting that the price would rise, but instead of doing so it went down, and by-and-by he sold it at a figure much below that which had been offered. The inference was in this case that with which this note is headed.

Denbighshire.

E. O.

THE ORIGIN OF CHESTER RACES?—The following is written on the cover of an old copy of Wynne's History of Wales (1697):—

The Shoemakers of Chester us'd to offer to the Company of Drapers at the Crosse on Rood Dee before the Mayor every Shrove Tuesday A Ball of Leather, call'd a Football, of 3s 4d price: which occasion'd Great Harm to those that play'd with it: For some were to Endeavour to Bring it to the House of the Mayor, or one of the Sheriffs. To Turn the said Homage to a better Use, The Mayor, Aldermen, &c., Ordered, That, instead of the Football, the Shoemakers should Offer to the Drapers 6 Gloves of Silver, which should be Run for by Footmen. This Exchange was made when Henry Gee was Mayor.

The Sadlers on the same day & place us'd to Offer to the Drapers the Sadler's Ball on a Staff or Spear. Which being of no Use, was by the same Mayor turn'd into a Silver Ball of the Value of . . . to be won by the best Horse.

Every Person Married in the City or Liberty of Chester the year before did at the same Time & Place Offer to the Drapers a Ball of Silk, fit for few Uses. This by the same Mayor was Turn'd into Silver Arrows, to be won by the best Shooter.

After these Exercises are over, The Company of Drapers do Feast the Mayor & Aldermen in the Common Hall And the Shoemakers & Sadlers for 2 Days with Bread and Beer, And the 3rd day with a Banquet.

The Drapers have the forfeiture of all neglects of Homages, viz., £10.

The 2 Sheriffs on Easter Monday Provide a Breakfast each of Calve's Heads & Bacon on Rood Dee. An equal number of Archers Shoot for the Breakfast. The winners pay 2d a piece, the losers 4d.

This seems to have been the origin of Chester Races. Query—Why should the Shoemakers and Saddlers make offerings to the Drapers?

H.

WELLS.—It is probable there is scarcely a parish in Shropshire or the Border Counties but it has a well, the water in which is locally reputed as a specific for curing one disease or other. Some will cure rheumatism (I think the Black Well, near Newtown, is, or rather was, reputed to possess this property), others will cure sore eyes, others are good to drink medically. These generally have some mineral flavour, such as the

"Stinking" Well, near Ty'nyreithin, Newtown. Others again are regarded as Holy Wells, being generally called by the name of some saint—the Lady Well, at Newtown, was probably so called after the Virgin—and in ancient days it is equally probable the water for christening children and other purposes connected with the Church was obtained therefrom. It would be a valuable addition to *Bye-Gones* column if persons living in the district over which the *Advertiser* circulates would send short accounts of any wells known to them in the neighbourhood where they reside, describing the virtues which such wells are said to possess. In these days old fashioned traditional lore is fast disappearing, and although some persons may think that recording superstitious notions about wells is scarcely worth the trouble, yet others hold very different views, and believe they would be adding valuable information to the knowledge we now possess of the past history of the district.

Z.

FAMINE IN WALES AND PESTILENCE AMONG CATTLE IN 1585-6.—"We feel the Lord had many ways against us at this time in regard to the scarcity of all things and especialey virtuals and great numbers of poor. Every man among us was either wont to sow as much corn as served his family for the year or to make as much of his sheep and other cattle as might buy the same. The unseasonable harvest of 1585 yielded very little corn. Therefore many were able to sow nothing the last year because they had not bread corn much less seed. The winter 1585 destroyed all their cattle well near so that now the very sinew of their maintenance is gone. Many that lived well and thriftilly are fain to give over both house and home and to go a begging. They were driven the last harvest to all the shifts in the world; **as a rule the standing corn being not half ripe to make them some bread thereof.* This famine is for sins, the Lord, without our repentance, saith it shall continue" (pp. 58—9).—Pamphlet mentioned in *Bye-Gones* Nov. 17, 1886.

ZETA.

NORTH WALIAN SCRAPIANA. II. (Jan. 5, 1887). A correspondent in a Welsh newspaper tells a funny tale about the difficulty Englishmen have in pronouncing Welsh place names, and he mentions the following as a case in point:—"When the Halkyn Drainage Scheme was before the Committee of the House of Lords, Sir Edmund Beckett, Bart., was addressing the Committee, and referring to a map on the wall asked their lordships to look at Seelsaen (Cilcain), when Mr E. G. Salisbury corrected him by saying, to the evident amusement of all present, that it was pronounced 'Keelkaen,' which Sir Edmund failed, after several attempts, to repeat. I remember another instance, when Mr Hope Scott found himself in a similar difficulty, for he kept calling Machynlleth—Macontlet. The late Marquis of Londonderry, then Earl Vane, said laughingly to the Lords who composed the Committee when this happened, "My Lords, Mr Hope Scott cannot pronounce the word correctly; send for Mr Salisbury, he will give it you correctly," and Mr Salisbury was sent for accordingly. When he arrived in the room Mr Scott put

his hand on his shoulder, and smilingly said to him, "Tell my Lords the correct name of this place," pointing to it on the map with his hand. When that had been done, to the great amusement of the noble lords, Mr Scott proceeded with his address, and when he had occasion to refer to Machynlleth he stopped, took a pinch of snuff, and with a wink always said, "The place my friend Mr Salisbury named to you, my Lords, so correctly, no doubt, but not to either your edification or mine, I suspect." Many writers, who with some trouble might do otherwise, give queer names to well known Welsh places; but as the writer above alluded to quaintly remarks, Mr Pennant spells the first mentioned place *Kilken*; the Post Office Directory *Cilcan*; and on the Ordnance Map it is spelt *Cilcain*. The Post Office Directory in my opinion gives it correctly, and I fancy the Ordnance people must have coined the word for themselves, founded probably upon an old story that it stood at the end of a narrow pathway, called *Llwybr-Câl-Cain*, the old saw being that a mag-nate named Cain, dwelt at the end of the pathway some hundreds of years before the English occupied Wales. I take it that some good reason can be given for all place-names in North Wales. Why—apart from the old saw alluded to—was Cilcain so called, and why was Machynlleth so named? In like manner we may ask what was Holywell in Flintshire called before the spring came into existence, at the time when St. Beuno worked the well-known miracle on his niece Winifrede? We understand why it was afterwards called Holy-well, and yet that does not truly represent the Welsh name of the town *Treffynon*, which signifies the Town of the Well. Why was *Flint* so named, for curiously enough there are no flint stones in its immediate vicinity. Did the ancient Britons call any of these places by the names known to us? And if so, where are the evidences to attest the fact?

A NORTH WALIAN ANTIQUARY.

QUERIES.

KERRY.—Where, and when, did the best History of the parish of Kerry appear? H.

MOUGHTREY AND PENSTROWED PARISHES. Can any correspondent of *Bye-Gones* define the boundary lines between these parishes—from the Dulas brook near Newtown to the point where Moughtrey parish ends in the direction of Llandinam; and do Llandinam, Penstrowed, Mochdre, and Llanbadarnfynydd meet at any common point, and if so where? GWRYD.

THE MYDDLETONS OF LLANSILIN.—Will any correspondent kindly inform me whether there are any inscriptions on tablets or monuments, or entries in the Registers of the Church of Llansilin relating to this family? Also who was its last representative, who is now the owner of the property, and whether it passed by purchase or otherwise? H.W.L.

THE MYDDLETONS OF PLAS CADWGAN.—The last of the ancient family of this place, Edward Jones, was attainted and executed in 1586, "for his share in the Babington Conspiracy," which consisted simply in his lending a horse to Thomas Salisbury of Llewenni, also attainted and executed, to aid him to

* The italics are mine.

escape. Doubtless the property was confiscated, but it is found to have been subsequently in the possession of a Myddleton of the family of Gwaunynog. Who was the original grantee, and how did it pass to the Myddletons? Did Edward Jones leave any issue? And, if so, is it known what became of them? H.W.L.

WELSH NAMES OF PLANTS.—In a recent number of the *Revue Celtique*, in an article on "Flora Celtica," M. Gaidoz says:—

Les *Bye-Gones* d'Oswestry dans le volume de 1832 contiennent plusieurs notes relatives aux noms et aux légendes des plantes en Galles (p. 89, 135 et 149). On y reproduit une liste de noms gallois tirés "from a scarce little book by Lady Wilkinson called *Weeds and wild flowers, their uses, legends, and literature*." Une question que j'ai faite dans le même volume (p. 190), pour avoir la date et le lieu de publication de ce livre, est restée sans réponse.

We repeat the query, in the hope that some of our present readers may be able to give M. Gaidoz the date and the place of publication of Lady Wilkinson's book. Ed.

REPLIES.

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS (Jan. 5, 1887).—The custom of "first foot" is well known. I find it is still kept up in Oswestry, but I doubt whether it is an Oswestry Custom. On last New Year's Eve a fair young man who left the house where he lived and did not intend to return until after midnight was warned that he must on no account enter first in the New Year, but send "a dark man" before him. Accordingly when he returned he found a "dark man" in the street and persuaded him to be "first foot." The people of the house, I should say, are not Oswestrians by descent and may have imported the custom. Can any Oswestrian throw light upon it? T.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr E. C. Peele, town clerk, has been elected by the Shrewsbury Town Council a governor of Shrewsbury Grammar School in place of the Earl of Powis, resigned, to whom a vote of thanks was passed for his services.

As a memento of his Parliamentary representation of the Carnarvonshire Boroughs, Sir Love Jones-Parry, Bart., has presented the Corporation with the replica of its ancient seal, set in solid silver, and bearing a suitable inscription.

The library which has been formed in connection with the public newsroom at Llangollen was opened on Friday evening by Colonel Cornwallis West, M.P. The proceedings connected with the formal opening took place in the Assembly Rooms.

The marriage of Mr T. Frederick Kynneale-Gardner, of Leighton Hall, Shropshire, with Mrs Radgett, of Darwen Bank, Preston, took place on New Year's Day, at St. George's Church, Hanover Square, London. There were public festivities at Leighton in celebration of the event.

At the monthly meeting of the Carnarvon Town Council last week, the Mayor read a letter which he had received from Mr Howel Thomas, secretary to the "Sir Hugh Owen Memorial Fund," in reply to a communication from the Council. Mr Thomas wrote:—As it is intended that,

subject to conditions, the memorial should be set up in Carnarvon, you will, I am sure, appreciate the action of the committee in determining to secure a work of art which will be worthy of the great friend of Wales whom it will represent, and at the same time be an ornament to the ancient borough with which he was so intimately connected. The conditions attached to placing the memorial in Carnarvon are that whilst the committee secure the production of a worthy statue the town will provide a site and pedestal. The Mayor said that the Corporation would heartily acquiesce with the wishes of the committee by providing a suitable site and pedestal. Eventually it was decided to inform Mr Thomas that the Council were prepared, after a design had been selected, to do all they could to meet the wishes of the Memorial Committee.

A correspondent in the *Cambrian News* writes:—Mr Hugh Evans, the "Royal Mail" between Towynd and Llanegryn, has been at the post of duty for over twenty-four years, this veteran servant of the Queen and celebrated pedestrian was at war with time, distance, and the elements before Generals Lee and Grant were known to fame, and is yet in the thick of the battle displaying the same vigour and punctuality as he did in the halcyon days of his youth. Mr Evans walks sixteen miles every working day of the year in the discharge of postal duty and often adds twenty miles in the day to the feat whenever there is a chance of enjoying a run with the hounds between the rounds. He has walked on the path of duty alone over 120,192 miles or five times the circumference of the globe, or over twenty times the distance between Queenstown in Ireland, and New York in America. His lithe sinewy form goes apparently without an effort always at the same rate which is about five miles an hour.

FIRST-FOOTING IN SCOTLAND IN OLDEN TIME.—The following is interesting in connection with a reply in *Bye-Gones* this week. In that case, it will be observed the 'first-footer' must be dark. Grahame says:—

Long ere the lingering dawn of that blithe morn
Which ushers in the year, the roosting cock,
Flapping his wings, repeats his larum shrill;
But on that morn no busy flail o'beys
His rousing call; no sounds but sounds of joy
Salute the year—the first foot's entering step,
That sudden on the floor is welcome heard,
Ere blushing maidens have braided up their hair.
The laugh, the hearty kiss, the good new year,
Pronounced with honest warmth.

There were two kinds of first-footing. The first consisted in the preparation just before twelve o'clock of the hot pint—i.e. a flagon of warm spiced and sweetened ale, with an infusion of spirits. When the clock had tolled the knell of the departing year each member of the family would drink of the mixture—"A good health, and a happy New Year, and many of them" to all the rest, with a general handshaking, and perhaps a dance round the table, with the addition of the song—

"Weel may we a' be,
Ill may we never see,
Here's to the King
And the gude companie," &c.

Then the elders would sally forth with the kettle, and often buns, shortbread, &c., to be the first-foot to their neighbours, and interchange with them the same cordial greetings. If they met others on the way they would stop and give and take sips from their respective 'kettles.' Now it is the custom to bear in one's pocket a bottle of whisky instead of the hot spiced ale, and to such an extent does the custom of first-foot and drinking happy New Years prevail that in the large towns the streets are more thronged between twelve and one in the morning than they

usually are at mid-day. To make the new year lucky it was thought to be essential that the 'first-foot' should be a fair-complexioned person. The other kind of first-foot was more pleasant (usually) to the young folks than the former. It consisted in going to the door in the hope of its being opened by some bonnie maiden and obtaining the privilege of a kiss as her first foot. Great was the joking of the others, and great the disappointment of the first-comer when, through accident or design, some old maiden aunt or ancient grand-dame came instead of the blooming Jenny.

The late Dr. Andrew of Shrewsbury.

We regret to announce that Dr Andrew, of St. John's Hill, Shrewsbury, died at his residence on Monday afternoon. He had been confined to his bed for about nine weeks. Dr. Andrew was surgeon to the Salop Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital, and was much beloved by the patients for his great kindness and constant attention. He was a faithful friend of the poor and his death will be deeply felt by all classes in the town.

The late Iolo Trefaldwyn.

Mr Edward Davies (Iolo Trefaldwyn) died on Tuesday morning, January 4, at the age of 67. The deceased was born at Moel y Froches Farm, near Llanfyllin, in 1819, and was well-known in the Principality and in many of the large towns of England. He was one of the deputation of bards sent for from London to represent this part of Wales at the meeting in connection with the London Eisteddfod in November. He won a chair prize at the Liverpool Gordovic Eisteddfod. Iolo was always a great lover of the harp, and he has many times joined in penillion singing. He was also some years ago one of the best epitaph ('Bedd Argraphadau') composers in Wales, and has won many prizes for poetical compositions at Eisteddfodau. He was precantor at Zion Chapel, Wrexham, for 21 years. In his early days he worked at the Minera Lead Mine. He lived in Liverpool a few years, carrying on business as a coal merchant, whence he came to Wrexham, and was employed in canvassing orders for books. The funeral took place at the New Cemetery, Wrexham, on Friday. The service at the deceased's residence was conducted by the Rev David Roberts, and the Rev H Barrow Williams officiated at the cemetery. There was a large attendance.

RAIN FALL IN 1886 AT WYNNSTAY GARDENS.

Rain Gauge—Diameter of funnel, 12in. Height of Top : above ground, 3ft ; above sea level, 484ft.

Month.	Total Depth.	Greatest Fall in 24 Hours.	Number of Days on which '01 or more fell.
	Inches.	Depth.	Date.
January.....	4.22	0.40	30
February.....	0.82	0.18	3
March.....	3.16	0.72	26
April.....	2.55	0.85	29
May.....	7.49	2.14	13
June.....	2.27	0.54	9
July.....	2.53	0.46	24
August.....	1.11	0.21	10
September..	8.20	1.32	10
October.....	4.99	0.92	2
November....	2.25	0.61	6
December....	5.17	0.32	9
Total....	39.76	9.17	..

(Signed)

P. MIDDLETON.

RE-OPENING OF LLANSANTFFRAID-GLYN-CEIRIOG CHURCH.

After a thorough restoration the unimposing little parish church at Llansantffraid in the Glyn Valley was re-opened on Thursday amidst such a scene of enthusiasm as is seldom witnessed in that remote and quiet hamlet. The church is built on a hill-side overlooking the valley in which the houses nestle, and with its circlet of dark yew-trees can be seen from a considerable distance. It is built after the fashion of almost all the early Welsh churches with layers of thin stones and topped by a short square tower. In July the work of restoration began. The vicar, the Rev. David Jones, finding the building inconvenient and considerably out of repair, made application to several Churchmen, including Lord Trevor, the patron of the living, and with their kind support, and the funds advanced by the different Church Building Societies, he was soon able to begin the work, and plans and specifications were at once prepared by Mr Henry Kennedy, architect, of Bangor. It was necessary in the first place to re-roof the building and the new slates were given by Lord Trevor, who throughout the undertaking aided with his sound judgment and his good taste as well as with his purse. He gave about half an acre of land to enlarge the burial ground. The assistance of Lady Trevor was also not wanting, and her choice was generally carried out with regard to the ornamental details of the interior. Besides the new roof it was thought desirable to remove the rough east which formerly disfigured the outside of the walls, and after this had been done all the joints were well raked out and pointed with the best Portland cement. The tower was included, and this, besides very much improving the general appearance outside, made the building weather-proof, notwithstanding the force of the storms which sometimes sweep the hillside. As regards the internal arrangements, the first important work was the removal of the old ugly plaster ceiling, which concealed the roof, and this brought to view an excellent and well-designed oak roof, which, being divided at the east end by a principal which was cusped and furnished with a circular rib below, marked the boundary of the chancel. It was further ornamented by a canopy of curved lines in panels with carved bosses at the intersections. The north and south sides of the chancel above the oak arcading was covered with panels in a lozenge shape, also with flowers at the intersections. This, with the altar cloth and super-altar, which is placed at the east window, gives the chancel a pleasing appearance. The decorations in the chancel were the gifts of Lady Trevor. The pulpit, the reading desk, and the seats, are made out of the old oak fittings formerly in the church, and have been reconstructed with every appreciation of convenience. The handsome lectern and credence table were the gifts of the contractors, Messrs Clarke, Sons, & Co., of Park-street, Birmingham, and the whole work of the interior, which was entrusted to them under the direction of the architect, with the careful supervision of the Vicar himself, has been very successfully carried out. Mr Hugh Griffiths did the slating and cementing. The Hon. Miss Hill-Trevor made a present of altar linen, and Miss Nina Hill-Trevor gave the almsbags. The work altogether cost about £80.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

Lord Aberdare has expressed approval of a proposal to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee at Cardiff by the erection of buildings for the South Wales College.

Local donations to the Church of England Memorial of the Queen's Jubilee include the following :—Mr A. P.

Heywood-Lonsdale, £200; Mr J. Watson, £50; Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart., £25; Mr H. O. Wakeman, £5; Mr H. H. France-Hayhurst, £10; Rev. Canon France-Hayhurst, £50; Rev. Canon Lloyd, £5; Hon. R. C. Herbert, £5; Captain Mytton, £5; Bishop of Bedford, £10; Bishop Abraham, £10; Bishop of Hereford, £50; Bishop of Bangor, £100; Dean of St. Asaph, £55s. Up to December 29th, 564 subscriptions were promised, amounting to £16,433 15s.

The Duke and Duchess of Westminster were present on Saturday at an influential meeting held at Chester Town Hall to inaugurate a movement for restoring the obelisk on the summit of Moel Famman, in Flintshire, in commemoration of her Majesty's Jubilee Year. The tower was originally erected in 1809, to commemorate a similar period in the reign of King George III., but has long since been in a dilapidated condition. The meeting was attended by Col. Cornwallis West, M.P., Sir David Radcliffe, Liverpool, and the Mayors, Town Clerks, and other delegates from various towns in Cheshire, Denbighshire, and Flintshire. The Duke of Westminster, having regard to the general depression, thought the expenditure might be kept within £1,000, but Colonel Cornwallis West thought the response from North Wales would be so encouraging as to justify a larger expenditure, and the putting up of a building which should be conspicuous and substantial, as well as attractive from an architectural point of view. An executive committee was formed, with the Duke as president, Colonel Cornwallis West vice-president, and Sir Watkin Williams Wynn and Lord Kenyon among its members.

DENBIGHSHIRE QUARTER SESSIONS AND THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The January Quarter Sessions for the county of Denbigh were opened at Ruthin on Thursday, Capt. Griffith-Boscawen presiding. Colonel Cornwallis West introduced the subject of the Queen's Jubilee. He said the Imperial Institute would be of a national character, and would not interfere with any local celebrations. For the county of Denbigh it had just been suggested to him that they should celebrate the year by taking some steps for the preservation of their antiquities, and he considered the suggestion a good one. The proposal to erect the tower on Moel Famman would no doubt be discussed at the county meeting. He then proposed a resolution approving of the suggestion to found an Imperial Institute and also approving of a local celebration.—The Chairman seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE QUARTER SESSIONS AND THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

These sessions were opened at Welshpool on Wednesday morning in the Town Hall, when the magistrates present were Lord Powis (chairman), Charles Watkin Williams Wynn, Esq. (deputy-chairman), Capt. Mytton, Major Corbett-Winder, A. C. Humphreys-Owen, Esq., R. Woosnam, Esq., Major R. J. Harrison, the Rev. R. M. White, R. Lloyd, Esq., A. Howell, Esq., J. Jones, Esq., N. W. Fairles-Humphreys, Esq., R. Jones, Esq., Sir T. Frost, J. H. Blythe, Esq., M. C. Jones, Esq., and R. E. Jones, Esq.; G. D. Harrison, Esq., clerk of the peace, W. N. Swettenham, Esq., county surveyor, J. Danily, Esq., chief constable, and W. M. Howell, Esq., county treasurer.

With reference to the circular letter addressed by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to the Lords Lieutenant and

the Mayors of Wales, respecting the establishment of an Imperial Institute in connection with the Colonies and India, in celebration of her Majesty's Jubilee, the noble CHAIRMAN said that since these letters had been sent out he had received another circular letter from his Royal Highness, enclosing the report of the Committee of which Lord Herschell, the late Lord Chancellor, was chairman, sketching the manner in which they thought it would be desirable to carry out this Institute so that it might be the means of exhibiting the products of the Colonies, varying these exhibits from time to time as circumstances changed, and also that there should be a building where those interested in the Empire of India and the Colonies might meet together for business or for consultation, and where a library of books illustrating the condition and wants of the different colonies might be established for reference. In London and in the great commercial centres there was no doubt that those who were connected by business or commerce with the different portions of our great colonial empire would take an active part in establishing this Institute. At present the arrangements were in a preliminary state, and they would see from time to time publications from the General Committee giving details of what it was proposed should be done. With regard to that part of the question, he thought the better way would be to ask the Clerk of the Peace to keep these papers, and any others which might be sent to the Lord Lieutenant, in his office, for public inspection. In that way those who wished to refer to the proceedings of the Committee of the Institute from time to time would be able to see all that was published respecting it; and he would further suggest that they should ask the Clerk of the Peace to be good enough to receive the names of any gentlemen who desired to contribute towards the Institute. The question as to what should be done in the way of local celebration rested rather with the posse communitatis, if he might use the expression, under the auspices of the high sheriff, than with the magistrates as a body, under the auspices of the custos rotulorum. In a county like Montgomeryshire, where they had no large populous central town, where they had no geographical centre, where they had no parliamentary centre, because their elections were held alternately at Montgomery and Machynlleth, where they had no judicial centre, because their assizes and quarter sessions were held in turn at Welshpool and Newtown, the circumstances probably pointed to local undertakings in commemoration of this great and rare event rather than to any one great central county memorial, but he would venture to suggest that it would be desirable that, of any local contributions which might be raised, some portion should be assigned to the great Central Institute, the proposal for which had been made under the auspices of the Prince of Wales, so that in that way the county might contribute some share towards the general fund and the general commemoration. In the different localities probably some object of local interest might be started, and he thought that perhaps while it was very desirable to have these rejoicings, they should not forget the poor, and that they should do something in the way of entertaining those to whom the occasion of a national holiday was a very rare occurrence. It would be very desirable also to do something which would make a permanent memorial in each neighbourhood of the event, and that all remembrance of it should not pass away as soon as the tents in which they had gathered together had been struck and carried off. To-day it was not his intention to trespass on the province of the High Sheriff, or to ask the Court to do anything, as it could not stand in the same position as a general county

meeting convened by the Sheriff, but he would content himself with moving that the Clerk of the Peace be requested to allow the papers to remain in his office, and be accessible at reasonable hours to any persons who wished to consult them, and that he would be good enough to take the names of any gentlemen who might wish to make him the channel through which to give any contributions to the great central undertaking—a Memorial Institute of the United Kingdom, the Colonies, and India (Applause.)

Capt. MYTTON seconded the resolution, and it was unanimously agreed to.

THE COMING OF AGE OF MR. R. E. MYDDELTON BIDDULPH OF CHIRK CASTLE.

Saturday was the twenty-first anniversary of the birth of Mr R. E. Myddelton Biddulph, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Myddelton Biddulph of Chirk Castle. Such an important day in the career of one of the principal members of such an important family as that of Chirk Castle could not be allowed to pass without an appropriate celebration on the part of the army of tenantry to be found on so large an estate. The attainment of a majority is always a happy opportunity for the exchange of congratulations between landlord and tenant, and this was the case on Saturday at Chirk Castle. The celebration was taken up with great zest by the tenantry, and amongst them and their friends the very handsome sum of nearly £220 was raised. All the proceedings were conducted to a most happy issue by a representative committee, of which the Vicar of Chirk, the Rev. L. Wynne Jones, was chairman, Mr James Darlington the secretary, and Mr John Thomas the treasurer. The other members of the Committee were—Dr Lloyd, Messrs Elias Griffith, William Lloyd and Edward Lloyd, Maesgwyn, James Davies, William Griffiths, L. S. Roberts, Isaac Edwards, A. G. Wilson, William Jones, Wharf, Thomas James, John Williams, J. H. Cadwalladr, William Bolas, William Owen, John Bradley, John Dodd, S. Jones, Henry Jones, S. Tinsley, John Williams, Joseph Edwards, John Jackson, Thomas Edwards, senr., T. E. Thomas, J. C. Edwards, J. Evans, Chirk Bank, Joseph Roberts, the Rev. Hugh Jones, Messrs E. Hughes, Plas Offa, John Roberts, Halton, R. Hughes, the Forge, R. Northall, E. Stokes, W. Mills, T. Edwards, junr., William Parker, the Rev. David Jones, Messrs T. Davies, Penybryn, Humphreys, Edward Davies, J. Carsley, P. P. Hartley, R. Blake, Griffith Hughes, Richard Morris, John Williams, G. Hall, Edw. Jones, Price Harrison, S. Lloyd, W. H. Longbotham, C. Greasley, P. Sands, J. Oldfield, J. Bradley, and S. Owen. The celebration took the form of a presentation to Mr Myddelton Biddulph of an illuminated address of congratulation and a gold watch. The address, which was enclosed in a frame made of oak which had grown on the Chirk Castle estate for three hundred years, was beautifully illuminated, and bore the arms of the family. The watch was an exquisite piece of workmanship made by Mr Russell of Liverpool. It was a gold hunting watch, and on the front of the case was engraved the monogram, "R. E. M. B."; the reverse side was filled with the arms of the Myddelton Biddulphs beautifully emblazoned in enamel. Inside the case was the inscription "Presented by Chirk Castle tenantry to Robert Edward Myddelton Biddulph, Esq., on his coming of age, January 8th, 1887."

The weather of Saturday was not what any would have selected for a popular celebration. For some days past a thick covering of snow had lain on the earth, and on Saturday the thickness of it was augmented a little. Still the weather was what the hardy would describe as eminently

seasonable, and as a matter of fact the cold and uncomfortable temperature had no appreciable effect upon the spirits of those who were determined to do honour to the hero of the day. At early morning the melodious parish bells began ringing, and from morning till night a battery of anvils was continuously fired at Mr Edwards's smithy. Chirk itself, which is always loyal with a good grace, had also decked itself for the occasion, and its short but capacious street was made gay with a profusion of bunting suspended from side to side. The time at which the committee and subscribers were to meet was announced as eleven, the rendezvous was the Hand Hotel, and shortly after that hour a procession, containing about four hundred persons, was formed, and led by the Penybont Brass Band it marched to Chirk Castle, where it arrived soon after noon. As the Castle was neared the flag was run up the staff, and the battlements of the ancient castle were occupied with banners indicating possibly the preparedness of the occupants for any assaults which might be made upon it. Marching into the courtyard the processionists formed around the steps leading to the main entrance, and shortly the door was thrown open, and the hero of the day with his father and mother, Colonel Cotes, Captain Wyn Griffith, Mrs J. D. Lloyd, Miss Humphreys, and others, appeared; they were received with ringing cheers, and the band appropriately played 'The fine old English gentleman.'

The VICAR of CHIRK then ascended the steps, and addressing Mr Robert Edward Myddelton Biddulph, said: As chairman of the Committee appointed to carry out the celebrations of this day I have been deputed to present you with the address which I shall presently read, and I assure you that it gives me exceeding great pleasure to have the opportunity of doing so. This is a day to which we have all looked forward with very great interest. We in this parish of Chirk feel exceedingly proud to think that to very few parishes probably throughout the kingdom does the opportunity belong of celebrating such a coming-of-age as this. Standing as we do here in the courtyard of this very ancient castle, our thoughts naturally go back to the time, somewhere about three hundred years ago, when it came into the possession of the Myddelton family, and we rejoice to remember that ever since then, through successive generations down to the present worthy occupants of the Castle, the family has always stood very high in the esteem of the surrounding neighbourhood. (Cheers.) Mr Robert Myddelton Biddulph.—On your coming-of-age as you do to-day, we desire to express the very kindest feelings and best wishes. (Cheers.) We are reminded that your coming-of-age happens in the month of January. January has long been regarded as the opening month of the year, and we might say that the event of your coming-of-age is to you so to speak the gate to your entrance upon public life hereafter—(cheers)—and our very earnest desire, wish, and prayer is that your life may be in all respects prosperous, that the good providence of God may bestow upon you every blessing He sees fit, that you may be adorned with every grace and virtue which ought to characterize a Christian, and that you may be guided by the highest wisdom through life. (Cheers.) We are all sorry that we are not favoured with better weather than we have to-day, and though we have done our best we could not order the weather, but as it is it may seasonably remind us that life is composed of cloud and sunshine. Our wish for you is that the sunshine may largely predominate. I have now to present you with the address, which reads as follows:—

Mr. Robert Edward Myddelton Biddulph.

We, your friends and well-wishers in the parish of Chirk and neighbourhood, beg to express our warmest congratulations on

the attainment of your majority, the profound esteem with which your family has for so many generations been regarded in our locality making this celebration one of more than ordinary interest.

Your pedigree goes back to so long and ancestral a past that the event of your coming of age, as heir to the Chirk Castle Estate, cannot but appeal, in a forcible way, even to the imagination of a very large number of people to whom the annals of a great house form but part of their local traditions.

How much more, then, does your majority appeal to our affectionate interest, living, as we do, under the very shadow of that grand old ivy-mantled Castle, venerable and hoary with an antiquity that embraces centuries.

While, therefore, offering our hearty felicitations, we assure you that we shall watch with lively interest your future career through a life which we pray may both be blessed and a blessing to others.

Our earnest hope is that, when called at some future time, which we trust may be distant, to fill the place now occupied by your father, you may emulate his kindly bearing towards all around him, and we further desire that the respect now shown to the son and heir may be accepted by your parents as a homage paid to them.—And we remain, dear Mr Robert E. Myddelton Biddulph, yours sincerely, LL. WYNNE JONES, Chairman.

January 8, 1887.

(Cheers.) The Vicar proceeded—I have also the pleasure of presenting you with this watch. A watch is in many respects, I need hardly remind you, very significant; it reminds us of how seconds, minutes, hours, and days are passing away, and that of whatever use we may be in this world there is but a short time for being useful. I have great pleasure in presenting you with this watch. (Loud cheers.)

Mr R. E. MYDDELTON BIDDULPH was received with loud cheers on proceeding to respond. He said—Mr Vicar and gentlemen, I cannot easily express the great pleasure I feel in having to thank you to-day for this very kind address and extremely handsome present which you have been so good as to bring me; and although feeling this to be in a great measure a token of regard for my father and mother, yet it will be my endeavour to win some of your esteem and friendship also for myself. I will not add more to these few words than to thank you all again for your great kindness. (Loud cheers.)

The Band then played 'He is a jolly good fellow.'

Mr MYDDELTON BIDDULPH, who was received with hearty cheering, said—Mr Vicar and gentlemen, I beg to thank you, on behalf of Mrs Biddulph and myself for the very kind words you have addressed to our son, and through him to us. It is with feelings of very great pleasure and pride that I see so many kind friends and neighbours assembled here to-day to do him honour and wish him well, on the threshold of life. Pleasure, because it tells us plainly in how kindly a manner you regard us, and pride, pardonable pride I hope, when I recognise your allusions to my family, and to the old place within whose walls we are standing. (Cheers.) I cannot but acknowledge that much of the feeling you have expressed is due, not to us, but to the remembrance of those who have preceded us. I beg to thank you for the beautiful present you have made my son, which I hope he will hand down as an heirloom to future generations. (Cheers.) And I hope, too, that it may constantly remind him of the old home among the hills and the kindly people who live around it. (Cheers.) Again, I beg to thank you for all the honour you have done us. (Cheers.)

Here the ceremony closed with three rounds of hearty cheering.

In the afternoon all the children of the parish and many old people were entertained at tea in the girls' schoolroom.

At night a quantity of fireworks were let off with much success by Mr John Thomas, and a huge bonfire was lit, which illuminated the neighbourhood for an hour or two.

The portico of the Hand Hotel was also illuminated with a design representing the Prince of Wales's crown.

In the evening a large number of gentlemen sat down to dinner in the boys' schoolroom. The chair was taken by Col. Lovett of Belmont.

JANUARY 19, 1887.

NOTES.

FOLK LORE.—HOW TO FIND OUT THE LOVER THAT LOVES THE BEST.—Young ladies whose minds are sweetly distracted by the claims of rival lovers naturally desire to ascertain which lover loves the best. The other day I found a group of young ladies trying to penetrate the future, and endeavouring, in the way I am about to mention, to find out their true lover. The fair lady takes as many apple pips as she has lovers, and these she places on the point of a knife, which she inserts between the bars of a roaring big fire. Each pip represents a lover, and the pip that first swells out and jumps into the fire indicates that the young man in whose place it stood is the best of all the lovers, and therefore he is the one that the young lady must accept. A similar and better-known test is made with nuts; the nut that cracks first conveys the knowledge sought for. E.O. Denbighshire.

COINS FOUND NEAR OSWESTRY (C. N. Dec. 15, 1886.)—During the operations rendered necessary by the construction of the new Liverpool reservoir some excavations were made in a field below Llanforda Isaf. In the course of these excavations several coins were brought to light, which were forwarded to me for examination by Messrs Davies Bros., the contractors. The only one among these coins that was of any value was a small silver piece, on the obverse of which the first four letters of the name "Henricus" could easily be read. This I sent to Dr Charles S. Perceval, treasurer of the Society of Antiquaries, who easily identified it as a silver penny of the second coinage of Henry II., date 1180. The legend on the reverse Dr Perceval reads, "Reinald on Ca," that is, "Reginald at Canterbury," Reginald being the name of the moneyer, and the coin being struck at Canterbury. The legend on the obverse Dr Perceval reads "Henricus Rex." The other coins found at Llanforda were pennies and halfpennies of the later Georges and Williams. A Macclesfield penny token was also picked up. ALFRED N. PALMER. Wrexham.

NORTH WALIAN SCRAPIANA. III, (Jan. 12, 1887.) I take blame to myself for not sending you the following interesting note by Mr Henry Taylor, on Flint Castle, when I wrote my first note to you upon North Walian matters. It had been mislaid at the time and I did not like to quote it from memory. He says—

The following entry, which is catalogued in the new calendar of the *Patent Rolls* of EDWARD I., furnishes us with the name of the first Constable of Flint Castle. The King had scarcely completed the erection of the Castle at

the date of the grant:—*Patent Roll, 6, Edward I., membrane 22.*

Whereas, formerly, We commissioned to Our beloved and faithful Guncelin de Badesmere, the office of Our Justiciary at Chester, for which custody he receives of Us for the year 100 marks, and lately commissioned him to the principal custody of Our Castle of Flint, with the appurtenances, and Our Town of Rothelan, with appurtenances, for which custody We wish provision to be made for him. We grant to him by the year altogether £100, receiving by the year £100 of the issues of his bailiwick at two terms at Our Exchequer at Chester, which We wish to allow him by the year during the custody aforesaid. In witness whereof, &c., 6th February.

I find from *Ormerod* that "Guncelinus de Badesmere" held the office of Justice of Chester from 1275 to 1282, and on reference to my *Historic Notices of Flint*, it will be seen that it was to him and Howell ap Griffin that King Edward proclaimed the first grant of a market and fair to Flint. Beyond this, however, I have as yet failed to obtain any particulars respecting him. A Lord Badesmere once held Leeds Castle in Kent. Perhaps he was of this family.

It is evident that the King held the custody of Flint Castle as an important post, by appointing his Chief Justice to it, and increasing his salary by one-third; for the care of the Town of Rhuddlan could not have given much trouble, seeing that the King himself held the Castle of Rhuddlan, and shortly afterwards brought his Queen and Court there. £100 at the date of this grant would be equal to about £1,500 of our money.

There can be no doubt that Edward attached immense importance to Flint as a commanding position when he was engaged in annexing the Principality to his kingdom of England. Chester of course was in his own hands; he was also able to dominate over Rhuddlan, and its neighbourhood from Rhuddlan Castle. It would add greatly to the value of the history of the parish if we could find some records that would show us who remained in charge of Caergwile, Hawarden, and Ewloe Castles at the times mentioned; for in that way practically we should see the extent of Edward's power over the whole of Flintshire, soon after the defeat and death of Llywelyn ap Gruffyth. I have said nothing of a supposed Mold Castle, nothing of a supposed Castle at Holywell, nor of Diserth Castle, for these places appear to me to have occupied at that time a different position, from a military point of view from the others. But Basingwerk Abbey, lying on the coast line, had been "strengthened," if not fortified, before Edward's day, and there are some evidences to show that he himself had occupied it, on his march from Flint to Rhuddlan, and we may suppose he esteemed it as a post of some value, religious house though it was. It however has a history of its own, and should therefore be dealt with by itself, and I therefore confine myself now to the points I have mentioned above.

A NORTH WALIAN ANTIQUARY.

QUERIES.

TOURS IN WALES.—As it seemed to be the fashion about the end of the last century, and commencement of this, to publish sumptuously illustrated volumes of "Tours" in North and South Wales (say from 1790 to 1830), would it not be interesting to give a list of authors of such, with dates of publication, size, and number of volumes in each work. It would certainly be an inter-

esting contribution to Welsh literature, and would unmistakably show that, however much Wales has been neglected in the past by the cruel Saxon, he *has* at all events, done the "tour" business to the satisfaction of the most fastidious Taffy. E.P.

Brecknock.

REPLIES.

CHRISTMAS SUPERSTITIONS (Jan. 5, 1887). The Christmas superstition to which your correspondent "W.O." refers—that each mince-pie eaten during the twelve days of Christmas would ensure a month of happiness—I first heard whilst on a visit to Oswestry at the recent festive season. Though not superstitious, I was constrained to take a second pie, being then, as my host put it, "ensured two months' happiness during the ensuing year." The superstition would also appear to obtain in the North. Scanning the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle* for January 8th this year, I noticed the following passage:—

The Twelve days from Christmas Day to Twelfth Day are the only true and legitimate days, say some persons, on which mince-pies should be eaten—at the rate of one a day; and each of these twelve days will ensure a happy month in the coming year.

I find reference to the other superstition—"as the weather is in each day of the twelve, so will it be in the corresponding month of the year following"—at p. 42, Vol. 1, of Brady's *Clavis Calendaria* (1815):—

In the Highlands of Scotland the prognostic or presage of weather is formed on a superstitious but innocent conceit, that the year will be governed, as to its general fluctuation, by the state of the twelve days, beginning from the 31st of December; thus if the 31st of December should be fair, so will the ensuing January; if the 1st of January should be fair, so will the succeeding February; if the 2nd of January, &c., so will March be found, and so on throughout the year.

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr R. J. Pryce (Gweirrydd ap Rhys) has received a grant of £150 from the Royal Bounty Fund.

Lord Ormesthwaite has resigned the Chairmanship of Radnorshire Quarter Sessions in consequence of ill-health.

At a meeting of the Welsh National Society, held at Liverpool on Thursday, Miss Dilys Davies, of London, delivered an address on the subject of "The Higher Education of Girls in Wales."

Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. have published a shilling series of National Songs, music and words, including *50 Irish and Welsh Songs* (with a portrait of Miss Mary Davies on the cover), edited by Mr A. H. Miles.

At the Guildhall, London, on Thursday, Mr H. M. Stanley, the African explorer, was presented with the freedom of the City of London in recognition of his services in opening up Africa to commerce. Mr Stanley was afterwards entertained to luncheon by the Lord Mayor.

The death is announced of Mr Meshach Roberts, of Bangor, whose election as a Councillor last November while he held the office of Alderman, gave rise to litigation which is still pending. Mr Roberts was in his 77th year.

Some interesting Roman remains have been discovered in a large chamber in Poole's Cavern, Buxton. They consisted of a toga, bronze bracelets, a piece of Samian ware, black pottery, charcoal, human remains, and teeth of the wild boar. The specimens have all been removed to the museum.

To the *Red Dragon* for January Principal Reichel contributes the excellent address on the "Future of Welsh Education" which he delivered before the Welsh National Society at Liverpool. The criticism of "Celtic Britain" is continued; and we are glad to find such a paper as Mr J. W. Ellis's "Naturalist in Snowdonia." The *Red Dragon* will add to its reputation if it will publish more contributions of this kind, and we should like to see papers on the physiography, natural history, and archæology of Wales, taking a prominent place in the national magazine.

In the *Sunday at Home* for January the Rev. H. Elvet Lewis begins a series of articles on the "Hymn Writers of Wales and their Hymns." The following is an extract from the first paper:—

Among all the bardic quarrels of Welsh literature, the quarrel of Archdeacon Prys with William Cynwal must be counted as its Iliad. The latter was a smith by trade, and received one day a message in verse from the archdeacon asking for a steel bow to be sent to a friend according to promise. The smith—who was also a poet—made a long delay, and sent his excuses back in verse. So the battle went on, poem for poem; then the archdeacon began to treble his blows, sending three satires together, and receiving the same number of fiery missiles in return. The archdeacon then thought he would finish his adversary with a fusillade of nine poems, but the sturdy blacksmith was sufficiently alive still to reply with another nine. Three times nine poems was the next onslaught, but when the archdeacon had finished sixteen of them, a messenger brought him tidings that his rival had reached the dark and silent land where "there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom"—nor any noise of warfare! He threw his sword far into the sea; and there and then commenced an elegy bewailing the loss of so brave a foe, so skillful a poet!

THE RURAL DEANERY OF SHREWSBURY.—On the resignation of Archdeacon Lloyd, the Bishop of Lichfield has given the office of Rural Dean of Shrewsbury to the Rev. Nathaniel Cooper, M.A., vicar of Oxon.

THE VICARAGE OF HOLY TRINITY, OSWESTRY.—The vicarage of Holy Trinity, Oswestry, vacant by the death of the Rev. Canon Cashel, has been offered to and accepted by the Rev. Thomas Redfern, rector of Trefonen. The living, which was in the gift of the Rev. Canon Howell Evans, vicar of Oswestry, is of the computed value of £310 a year. The new Vicar of Holy Trinity was ordained a curate of Oswestry in 1879, and in March, 1882, he was presented by the Earl of Powis, the patron, to the Rectory of Trefonen, in succession to the Rev. S. Reed, now Rector of Llanerfyl, and on April 2, was formally inducted into the living by the Vicar of Oswestry. We understand it is Mr Redfern's intention to make no alteration of ritual in the services of the Church as conducted by the late incumbent, Canon Cashel. The Rectory of Trefonen, which is in Lord Powis's gift, is of the computed value of £250 a year.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The *Chester Observer* publishes details of a "Jubilee Proposal" for the widening and improvement of Northgate-street, Chester, with plans and a coloured sketch of the proposed improvement, which, it is said, can be carried out without sacrificing any of the picturesque features of the street.

PUBLIC MEETING AT OSWESTRY.

A public meeting of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood of Oswestry, convened by the Mayor (W. H. Lacon, Esq.), was held in the Guildhall, yesterday, at three o'clock, to consider what steps should be taken to celebrate the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. The Mayor presided, and the other members of the Council present were the ex-Mayor (Mr R. Lloyd), Aldermen E. Shaw, Geo. Owen, and T. Minshall, and Councillors J. Jones, Weaver, England, R. Jones, W. Fletcher Rogers, R. H. Ellis, R. Hughes, R. Porter, G. Soley Evans, and Perks, with Mr J. Parry-Jones, Town Clerk, and Mr W. Jackson, Deputy Town Clerk, and amongst those present were also Lord Harlech, Mr Stanley Leighton, M.P., Colonel Lloyd, Aston, the Vicar of Oswestry (the Rev. Canon Howell Evans), the Rev. C. O. Kenyon, Morton, Mr E. Williams, Broom Hall, Mr A. Wynne Corrie, Park Hall, Mr O. G. Jones, Llanforda Issa, the Rev. J. J. Poynter, the Rev. J. Morris, Mr Conacher, Mr P. H. Minshall, Mr Maclardy, Mr Richards, saddler, Mr J. W. Thomas, Mr John Evans, saddler, Mr David Thomas, Mr H. T. Wakelam, Mr Gaius Evans, Mr Joseph Evans, Mr Richard Hughes, Mr R. H. Mason, Mr Ed. Evans, Mr Tyley, Mr Norris, Mr I. T. Parry, Mr Anderson, Mr Bott, and Mr W. T. Jones, etc. Letters of apology for non-attendance were received by the Mayor from the Earl of Powis, Mr Edward Jones, of Glentworth, and Mr Bremner Smith.

The MAYOR, in opening the proceedings, said the meeting had not been called to consider any scheme already prepared. It had been found impossible to place any scheme before them as a substantive scheme, but they would be glad to receive any suggestions, and it would be proposed to form a committee, to whom such suggestions might be referred. They were, of course, aware that on the 20th of June next the Queen would complete the fiftieth year of her reign. There were only three other English Sovereigns who had reigned over a similar period—Henry III., Edward III., and George III. Our present Queen stood pre-eminent in the love and admiration of her subjects. During her long reign we had enjoyed the blessings of good government, and she had, in fact, been a model Queen. (Cheers.) If we examined the genealogy of Queen Victoria, passing back beyond the Hanoverian Sovereigns to the Stuarts, we should find that she was descended from Walter Fitz-Alan, Lord of Oswestry—(cheers),—and that was something for Oswestry to be proud of. If ever they wished to erect a monument to the Queen in Oswestry he thought that the Castle Bank would be a very appropriate place for it—(cheers),—and it might serve to record the fact that the Queen was descended from Walter Fitz-Alan, Lord of Oswestry. With regard to precedents for celebrating the Jubilee, there were the celebrations which took place in the reign of George III. As Lord Granville mentioned the other day in his speech at the Mansion House, there was not very much recorded of those celebrations, beyond the fact that bells were rung, processions were formed, sermons were preached, and an enormous quantity of food and drink was consumed. He did not think they would care altogether to follow that precedent, but that they would prefer to erect some monument or to found some public institution as a memorial of the Queen's Jubilee. (Cheers.) The other day he accidentally came across a speech made in the year 1837 by Lord Morpeth, who was Irish Secretary at the time of the Queen's accession. Lord Morpeth said:

Reference has been frequently made to the reigns of our former female sovereigns, and indeed every Englishman must fondly look back to the reign of Elizabeth and the victories of Anne, but in shaping the desired career for their fair and young

successor, we do not wish that her name should rise above the wrecks of the Armada, we do not seek to emblazon her throne with the trophies of such fields as Blenheim, or the yet more transcendent Waterloo. Let her have glories, but such as are not drained from the Treasury or dimmed with the blood of her people. Let hers be the glories of peace, of industry, of commerce, of genius, of justice made more accessible, of education made more universal, of virtues more honoured, of religion more beloved, of striking the last manacle from the limb of the slave, and holding forth the earliest Gospel light to the unawakened nations, the glories that arise from gratitude for benefits conferred, and the blessings of a loyal and chivalrous, because a contented and admiring people.

(Cheers.) Those glorious anticipations of Lord Morpeth had been more than fulfilled during her Majesty's happy reign, and it had besides witnessed the invention of steam engines and railways; telegraphs and telephones. We did not know what might be the future developments of electricity as employed in the service of man. There were many suggestions before the public as to what they should do to celebrate the Jubilee. There was the proposal to obtain the Castle Bank, and to erect upon it such a monument as he had suggested. Upon that subject he had had many conversations with Mr Thomas Minshall, who had a chief interest in it. Then there was the question of obtaining Cae Glas for public purposes. That subject he took up immediately after he was elected to the mayoralty, and he had had a voluminous correspondence with the owner of the property. He did not think it advisable to trouble them with all that correspondence; but the meeting would probably like some explanation of what had occurred. In the first instance he addressed the following letter to the owner:—

Oswestry, November 15th, 1886.

Dear Sir,—As Mayor of Oswestry for the ensuing year, I take the liberty of addressing you upon a subject, which, if you will kindly entertain, I am sure will confer a lasting benefit on the inhabitants of the town generally. It has long been felt that there is need of a public garden for promenade, also a place where flower shows, or any other outdoor amusements could be held, and as your field called "Cae Glas," is so conveniently situated (nearly in the centre of the town), I have thought you might feel inclined to place it at the disposal of the Corporation on such terms of purchase or otherwise which would enable them to lay out and devote it for such purposes. Any stipulations or terms you might name I will submit to the Town Council for their consideration. There is a great desire to commemorate the jubilee of our beloved Queen in some fitting manner, and I feel sure this proposal would give general satisfaction, if, with your co-operation, it could be carried out. Trusting this will meet with your kind consideration and approbation, I remain, yours truly,

WILLIAM H. LACON.

Charles Jones, Esq., Rossett.

To that letter he received the following reply:—

Derwen Alyn, Rossett, Nov 17th, 1886.

My Dear Sir,—In reply to your note of the 15th inst., I beg to say that I have no wish to part with my property, Cae Glas, nor should I care to dispose of the "field" to which you allude apart from the rest. If, however, you like to make me an offer for the whole I will consider it and give you an answer.—Yours truly,

CHAS. JONES.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Oswestry.

In reply to that, he (the Mayor), told Mr Jones that it would be impossible to make an offer. He afterwards wrote to him to ask him to grant the Town Clerk and himself an interview. Mr Jones replied that he could not grant an interview, and if he (the Mayor) had any offer to make, he must make it in writing. He (the Mayor) subsequently wrote to suggest a sum which he thought would be a fair sum for the property, for the owner's consideration, but he replied that he did not think that sum was anything like its value. He continued to persevere, and wrote two or three other letters, all to no purpose.

Mr Owen also wrote asking him to re-consider his decision. Mr Jones's last letter was as follows:—

Derwyn Alyn, Rossett, December 29th, 1886.

My Dear Sir,—I received your letter yesterday, and feel sorry that you should have been to so much trouble in writing it, as I have nothing to say in reply but what I told Mr Owen the other day, viz., that I have said all I have to say on the subject about which you write in my former letters to you. Believe me, I fully understand your position in the matter, and can sympathise with you.—Yours truly,

CHAS. JONES.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Oswestry.

He therefore could not hold out any hope that they would succeed in obtaining Cae Glas. Another proposition which he thought would be acceptable to a great many people would be to obtain two dwelling houses attached to their municipal building, and reconstruct them in order that they might establish a Free Library and Museum there. Then again there were people who wanted a recreation ground pure and simple for children. Another suggestion was that the Gymnasium, which was not now used, should be converted into public baths. It would be for the committee it was proposed to appoint to consider these and other proposals which might be laid before them, and to decide which would be the best, to collect subscriptions, and to carry out the objects in view. He hoped they would be able to come to a pretty unanimous decision.

Mr EVANS, Saddler: Am I in order in asking a question?

The MAYOR: You are not in order. His Worship continuing said he durst say that when the day of jubilee came they would have a public holiday and festivities, but the details would of course have to be decided upon. They knew that the Prince of Wales had invited the provincial Mayors to join in the subscription for an Imperial Institute in London. He did not suppose there were many people present who would be willing to send away their money to London for that purpose, but he did know several people who wished to subscribe towards it, and he proposed to have a subscription list opened at the two banks, in order that any persons wishing to subscribe towards that object might do so. Of course they would also be glad to receive in the same way subscriptions towards the local Jubilee Fund they intended to raise. He would now call upon Lord Harlech to propose the first resolution. (Cheers.)

LORD HARLECH, who was received with cheers, then proposed the following resolution:—"That it is desirable that the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen be celebrated in this town and neighbourhood in some fitting and permanent manner." His Lordship said that the resolution was no doubt one which would be carried unanimously in that loyal town of Oswestry. He felt it quite unnecessary for him to enter into any panegyric of the Sovereign whose jubilee they were about to celebrate. To speak of the Queen in terms of eulogy was merely an attempt to gild refined gold. Whether they regarded her as wife, mother, widow, or woman, she had set an example to all of her subjects, both of high and low degree. (Cheers.) She had had pangs of sorrow as keen and bitter as any woman could feel, and whenever she had found any of her female subjects in sorrow, she had been the first to sympathize with them, and she had truly wept with those who wept, and rejoiced with those who rejoiced. (Cheers.) She had brought up her family in a way which would be creditable to any woman in the land. She had taken an interest in everything which tended to raise family life, and as a Queen nothing could be said in any way in disparagement of her. As the Mayor had remarked, only three previous Sovereigns of this country had reigned 50 years, and even the reigns of those three Sovereigns she had exceeded as queen regnant. Henry III. and Edward III. both came to the throne before they were competent

to exercise sovereign powers, and in the case of George III. they knew that for years he suffered from a mental malady which incapacitated him from the exercise of his royal functions. Therefore, in reigning 50 years over this kingdom and empire, she had exceeded the term of any previous Sovereign. (Cheers.) It would be for the Committee to be appointed to decide in what form the resolution he had proposed should be carried out, but he would express the hope that it would be carried out in not only "a fit" but "a permanent manner"—(cheers)—in some manner that would confer benefit on those who were to come after us. He hoped the funds collected would not be spent in eating and drinking, after the manner in which, in old days, public rejoicings were too often carried on, and which did not a particle of good to any mortal man except to the sellers of the provisions. He did hope, too, they would not have anything like that erection now to be seen in a dilapidated state on the top of Moel Fammau, which was raised in celebration of the Jubilee of George III. It was all very well to have a memorial of the Jubilee of that King's reign, but why should it be something that did nobody any good? There were only too many ways in which they might devote their money to the good of their fellow creatures. It would be a very laborious task, and would require the exercise of a great deal of discretion on the part of any committee, to decide which was the best of the many beneficial objects which would be submitted to them. With regard to Cae Glas, the Mayor, he thought, had shown that that was out of the question. Then there was the idea of a Free Library; an idea which had found favour in many quarters. There were other schemes he need not allude to which the Committee would have to deliberate and decide upon. He begged to submit to them the resolution he had proposed. (Cheers.)

Mr THOMAS MINSHALL, in seconding the resolution, which he said he did with the greatest pleasure, said he did not know any class in the community which was not upon the whole most loyal to her Majesty. The Mayor had just now said that one of the Queen's ancestors was Lord of Oswestry. That was true, but he (Mr Minshall) wished to go a great deal further. David Stuart of Scotland was an ancestor of the Queen's, and had his royal domain at Oswestry. He felt sure that that town would be behind no other town in its manifestations of loyalty. They would all, as true and loyal subjects of her Majesty, wish her every blessing and a little longer life still. (Cheers.) He begged cordially to second the resolution.

The MAYOR said he did not quite understand whether Mr Minshall went back beyond Walter Fitz-Alan, who was the founder of the Stuart family.

Mr MINSHALL—Yes; a long way. (Laughter.)

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr STANLEY LEIGHTON, M.P., who was received with cheers, said that it having been resolved nemine contradicente that the Jubilee of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen should be celebrated, the next thing for them to do was to decide whether a Committee should be appointed to arrange what form the celebration should take. He had therefore been asked to propose "That a committee be formed to consider and decide the best manner of such celebration, and for such purpose to collect subscriptions, and do all other things necessary." The Committee would have a large and wide duty thrown upon it, and a great responsibility. They would have many suggestions placed before them, upon which they would have to decide. They would also have the pleasant task of collecting subscriptions, which would doubtless flow in on all sides. The allusion by the Mayor to the old connection between the Lords of Oswestry

and the House of Stuart was a very happy one. He (Mr Leighton) confessed that the observation had not occurred to him, although he had written so much about the records of Oswestry, but it was undoubtedly true. There was little left, however, to call to mind the long connection of that town with the Fitz-Alans. The association with the lordship of Oswestry had passed away, and there were now only names in some old charters, and a few old stones in the Castle Bank to re-call their connection with Oswestry. One of the suggestions thrown out was that the Castle Bank should be made a little more decent and agreeable. (Cheers.) There was certainly no spot in the town from which they got a more magnificent view of the neighbourhood, and it was certainly a place he wished was very much more cared for. Then again, the room in which they were assembled was hardly worthy of the town of Oswestry. (Cheers.) Their municipal buildings were hardly worthy of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of Oswestry. He had always thought they should have a nobler habitation, and he hoped they would some time or other. (Cheers.) He hoped they would agree with him that a committee must be formed, and that the resolution he had read would fall in with their wishes. (Cheers.)

The VICAR OF OSWESTRY said he had great pleasure in rising to second the resolution. It would be a very difficult task for that meeting to decide upon what their money should be spent. It was therefore necessary to form a Committee, and a Committee which should be thoroughly representative. He believed it was intended to form a Committee numerically larger than that meeting. That meeting numbered about ninety, and it was intended that the Committee should number about 110 persons. Those who had pet schemes might bring them forward, and it would be for the Committee to come to a decision in regard to them. It was also intended to ask any of those now present, who desired to do so, to make suggestions. He himself, like many others, had a pet scheme of his own. When the Mayor had spoken of purchasing additional property at the ends of that building a vision rose up before him (the Vicar) of a charming fountain in the square, instead of a rather dilapidated pump, and shady trees, and stately buildings surrounding it. Although this would make an admirable centre piece for the town it would not be the object for which he would spend the Jubilee subscriptions. Nor did he hope it would be spent for a very lofty statue on the old Castle Bank, but upon something which should be for the good of the people at large. He thought a public play ground was a very great want in the town of Oswestry, and if a sufficient piece of ground could be purchased at the back of Castle-street, with access from the different schools, it would be an immense boon to the young people of the town. He had mentioned his scheme simply in order that it might be considered with the others which would be brought before the Committee. This, however, he would like to urge upon them all, that whatever became of their own pet schemes they should loyally accept the decision of the Committee it was proposed to appoint. (Cheers.) They wished, in commemorating the Queen's Jubilee to do honour to our Sovereign, to express their thankfulness to God for having given us the blessing of such a Queen, and also to do something which would be of real and permanent benefit to the people of Oswestry at large. But let them not for one moment allow this movement to be a cause of division or dissension amongst them. (Cheers.) The different schemes proposed could not all be carried out, and whatever might be ultimately agreed upon let them all do their best to forward it without harbouring

any feeling of discontent because their own pet scheme had not been adopted. He hoped the resolution would be cordially and unanimously agreed to. (Cheers.)

Mr EVANS, saddler, said that before the resolution was put he should like to ask one question. The Mayor ruled that unless he had an amendment to propose he was out of order.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr. Alderman GEORGE OWEN said that the next resolution was placed in his hands, but before proposing it he would like to say a few words on the question. He also was one of those who had a pet scheme, and he was one of those who generally nailed his colours to the mast and stuck to them. The scheme of Cae Glas had come and gone, and however much he would like to see grand Municipal buildings in the place of those in which they were now seated, he thought the expense of buying the adjacent property, pulling down the old buildings and erecting new ones, would be far more costly than they were aware of. Again, the scheme propounded by Mr Bremner Smith, so much to be commended in itself, could be met in another way, that is by renting a field at either end of the town, for he knew several persons already who would subscribe for this purpose the sum required, there would be no difficulty in getting this or any other sum in Oswestry—where the people were always ready and anxious to subscribe to anything that was good and useful. As Lord Harlech had said, we ought to have something permanent to commemorate the Jubilee Year, and he would therefore suggest to the Committee that a Victorian Institute be inaugurated by purchase, or otherwise, with a view to the greater encouragement of technical education. (Cheers.) This branch of education was more thought of by foreign nations than by ourselves, and we might depend on it, that unless we turned our attention to this matter more than we were at present doing, old England would not be able to hold her own in competition with foreign States. His suggestion was that an institute of this description be founded in connection with the present one in some manner to be worked out by the Committee. (Cheers.) He would propose the following resolution:—"That the following gentlemen constitute the proposed Committee, with power to add to their number:—Lord Harlech, Mr S. Leighton, M.P., the Mayor, Aldermen, Councillors, and Borough Officials, Vicar and Clergy and Ministers of all Denominations, Recorder and Borough Magistrates, County Magistrates for the Hundred of Oswestry, two members of each Friendly Society to be selected by the Society, Messrs A. W. Corrie, Edward Williams, Owen G. Jones, T. W. Gill, T. Longueville, Robert Owen, J. Humphreys, F. G. Buller Swete, J. C. Frank, C. W. Roberts, Edward Jones, M. B. Lawford, W. R. Lawford, F. B. Owen, J. D. Owen, C. W. Owen, A. E. Payne, W. I. Bull, S. Donne, T. Whitfield, W. H. Turner, J. Anderson, R. E. Hughes, J. Maclardy, C. Drew, W. T. Jones, J. Conacher, M. S. Forster, G. Copley, D. Vaughan, W. H. Thomas, J. Evans, M.A., O. Owen, M.A., W. Aston, S. Hazlitt, R. Taylor, G. W. R.

The Rev. J. J. POYNTER, in seconding the resolution, said of course they all agreed with the admirable words which had fallen from Lord Harlech with regard to her Majesty's grace and dignity as a woman and a queen. He was very happy also to be able to agree with his friend the Vicar, half way at any rate, in the short half of his speech in which he urged that, whatever decision the Committee might come to, and their own pet schemes might have been, they should cordially accept the scheme adopted by the Committee after due consideration. (Cheers.) Of course, falling in with the fashion, he (Mr Poynter) had a pet scheme, and upon that point he regretted to have to part company a

little with the Vicar. His pet scheme had already been referred to by more than one speaker, and he believed by Lord Harlech at the beginning with something like favour, the establishment of a Free Library. (Cheers.) He, for one, should be very glad if what might be called a Free Library and Museum scheme were adopted by the Committee. Some mention had been made of the purchase of a building for this purpose. There was already in the town a very good library of something like 8,000 books, which he hoped it would be found possible to obtain possession of, and he also hoped that it would be found possible to come to terms with the Public Hall Company for the possession of the building in which they were stored. He thought this might be done at less expense than if they had to alter old buildings very considerably, or buy new ones. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried unanimously, and the MAYOR asked if any gentleman had any suggestions to make.

Mr JOHN EVANS said that an occasion like the present only occurred once in a thousand years. (Laughter.) He had a pet scheme, and it was that, as the Cottage Hospital was inadequate to its present requirements, a new wing should be added to it, and that in future it should be called the Oswestry Infirmary.

Mr JOHN JONES said he begged to support the suggestion which had been thrown out by Mr Poynter. There would be no better way in his opinion of celebrating her Majesty's Jubilee in Oswestry than the establishment of a Free, Public, and Reference Library.

Mr RICHARDS, saddler, who said he had lived in the town 70 years, was understood to suggest the renovation of the public buildings at the Bailey Head.

Mr DAVID THOMAS suggested that the Committee in their efforts to obtain subscriptions should be especially pressing upon wealthy people. (Cheers and laughter.)

The MAYOR said that any suggestions might be sent in to the Committee, in writing.

Mr SHAW, in eulogistic terms, proposed a vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding, and mentioned that he himself also had a pet scheme, the erection of a block of almshouses.

Mr A. WYNNE CORRIE, in seconding the resolution, congratulated the meeting on the earnestness of the speakers, and the warmth and unanimity with which the resolutions had been carried.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and with acclamation, and the Mayor having briefly responded, the proceedings terminated.

We are informed that representative working men will be welcome to serve on the Committee.

JANUARY 26, 1887.

NOTES.

FOLK LORE—"CURSES COME HOME TO ROOST."—It is strange indeed that any one could possibly believe in the efficacy of a curse even when pronounced by someone supposed to be able to bring about its accomplishment, and yet there are people in our days who firmly believe that persons can be cursed, and there are still impostors who take advantage of the credulity of silly servant girls, and pretend that they are able to curse those whom, for a consideration, they are requested to curse. The existence of such a faith in the nineteenth century only proves how tenacious of life ideas are when they have once made a lodgment in the human mind. It may even be that all phases of faiths that have ever

been are still alive in some place or other in the world. Whether this be the case or not, certainly in Denbighshire a lingering belief in cursing still exists. The other day I was told by a respectable woman that her servant girl had gone to a certain old hag to curse those who, she said, had stolen money from her. But, said my informant, she seemed herself to be the party cursed, for she was not the same girl afterwards, and I was glad when she left me. Thus, in this case, the proverb that heads this note seemed to have been verified.

Denbighshire.

E.O.

WELSH NAMES OF PERSONS.—The signification of Welsh personal names can be rarely traced. There is, however, a class of ancient British names of rather uncommon usage in the present day, which were derived originally like place-names and had their own appropriate signification. The meaning in most cases is traceable in our own day. These names, among others, are:—CADWALADR (strength of battle), CASWALLON (war lord), CARADOG (beloved), CADOG (warlike), CYNON (probably from the Irish *Conon*), CYNDDELW, CADFAN (battle scene), CATWG, GLYNDWR (water valley), GWENFFRVD (white stream), GWALCHMAI (May Hawk), LLEWELYN (lion-like), LLYVARCH (lion horse), HYWEL (conspicuous), LLAWDDEN, MADOG (beneficent), MERLIN, MYRDDIN, MEREDYDD (sea protector), RHYDDERCH (free of gift), RHIWALLON, TUDUR (Ang: Tudor), TALIESIN (fair brow), TRAHAIARN. Among the feminine names of this class are:—NEST (chaste), MYFANWY, ENID, GAYNOR, GWEN (white), GWENLLIAN (linen white), OLWEN (white mark), BRONWEN (white bosom), EILUNED, GWENFFREWY (Winifred), GWENDDYDD (fair day), ANGHARAD, GWLADUS. The ancient British names which have survived centuries of changes, and have come down to us, are not numerous.

There is another class of names, purely Welsh, which seem to be of a later date than the above. They are also more frequently used in our own day than the former. These are:—LLWYD or LLOYD (grey), MORGAN (by the sea), GWYN (white), FYCHAN or VAUGHAN (little or junior), GOCH or GOUGH (red or ruddy), RHYS, ANEURIN, ARTHUR (strong), GORONWY or GRONWY (embanked water), GRUFFYDD (strong faith), MEURIG or MEYRICK, OWAIN (high lineage, Anglicized Owen), ITHEL, IFOR, IFAN.

There is a third class which stands closely connected with names of places, and may have been derived from them, or, *vice versa*, the places receiving their names from some ancient local families. These are:—MADRYN, MOSTYN, CONWAY, BOSCAWEN, DILLWYN (from *deulwyn*), PENNANT (ravine head), BLAYNEY (from *Blaenau*), KYFFIN (the border), COETMOR (*coedmaur*, big wood), LLYSHON (*lleision*), NANNEY (*nannau*, ravines), PENRYN (promontory), TREVOR (large township), BUCKLEY, EYTON. These correspond with hundreds of names in English which are derived from places such as Blackburn, Green, Sutton, &c. But in Welsh there do not seem to be any names derived from the animal kingdom corresponding with the English, Messrs Bird, Raven, Wolf, Lamb, Pike, &c., nor yet names derived from the occupations of daily life, upon a par with the great company of the English Smiths, Bakers, Farmers, Carpenters, &c., neither have the members of the human body en-

riched their nomenclature, nor has the dead-meat market supplied them with Lord Bacons, or Squire Muttons or Myttons. Their names seemed to be territorial, or suggested by some personal feature or characteristic. These are the ancient British names, and might probably be swelled to a hundred or more.

But the more general names in Wales at the present time, such as the great families of the Joneses, Williamses, Hugheses, &c., do not seem to have any particular Welsh meaning, save in a few instances. These, for the most part, were imported from other nationalities in comparatively modern times, and used among them as first names, but adopted by the Welsh as surnames. These are, Jones, Williams (*Gwilym*), Hughes, Rice or Reece or Rheece from Rhys, Thomas, Edwards (*Iorwerth*) Davies, Roberts, Richards, Morris, Ellis, Lewis, Harri or Harris, Evans from *Ifan* or *Ieuan* or *Ioan* or John. *Ieuan* is cognate with the English Young (*ieuange*) and Evan with *ivanc*, Russian *Ivon* or *Ivan*, a very natural name to distinguish the young man from the old man, his father. Francis, Phillips, Griffiths, from *Gruffydd*; Owens, from *Owain*.

Most probably the way whereby this wholesale influx of borrowed names supplanted the ancient British names of the *Cadwaladr* class, may be attributed to a custom or habit which was almost universal at one period, and existing to a considerable extent up to a century or less ago, of the son or daughter receiving the surname from the first name (or what is popishly called the Christian name) of the father. Thus, Thomas, the son of John Cadwaladr of five generations ago, would be called Thomas Jones, and Edward, the son of Thomas, would be called Edward Thomas, and Hugh, his son, would be Hugh Edwards, and William, his son, again, would be William Hughes. Here is William Hughes, a direct descendant in the male line of John Cadwaladr, and yet his ancestral name is completely lost. We have known such instances of interchanges in our own times, though very rarely.

In a former age, when the patronymic *Ap* was in vogue, and was the universal custom, the name of William Hughes of the fifth generation, would have been William Ap Hugh Ap Edward Ap Thomas Ap John Cadwaladr. The reader will thus see how easily the present system of common surnames derived from first names became so general. The old Welsh name of the *Cadwaladr* class would, in course of generations, disappear amongst the troop of first names which are now recognized as the common surnames of the Principality, so that a Jones or a Williams or a Thomas in any part of the world, from Offa's Dyke to Kamtschatka, would hail originally from old Cambria as much as a Macpherson or a Stewart or a Campbell hailed originally from old Scotia.

There was another custom in vogue in olden times which has become now almost obsolete, except in the case of a few old people, where it lingers only as a reminiscence of the past. The wife used to retain her own maiden surname, notwithstanding hymeneal changes. Catherine Williams, the wife of John Jones, would be Catherine Williams to the end of the chapter. This, and the adoption at will of the first name for a surname, occasioned also different appellations in the same family often. We have known two brothers of full blood called

John Williams and William Jones, and a brother and sister called Thomas Edwards and Catherine Thomas. How far this operated in abandoning the old names we cannot tell, but unquestionably it helped to bring about the present system.

There are two methods of distinguishing the Welsh names of most common currency. The first names with an S appended to them, or a P or B for a prefix. The P or B (interchangeable before different vowel sounds) is a remnant of the old Welsh patronymic *Ar* (Heb., *Ab*; Scotch, *Mac*; Norman, *Fitz*; English "*Son of*," from the Welsh *Mab*). What the S stood for originally is not equally clear; whether it is the S of the English "*Son*" or the sign of the possessive case "*Son of*," or simply the English plural ending introduced in comparatively modern times. I am inclined to the last view. All the children of a family of the name of William, or Hugh, would be naturally known and spoken of as the Williams or Williamses, the Hughes or Hugheses. The S in time became a part of the name, distinguishing the surname from the first name. Prichard therefore would stand for *Ap Richard*, and would be the same as *Richards*, which is *Richard*, the first name, turned into a surname by appending the S. *Parry* is *Ap Harry* or *Harris*; *Penry* is *Ap Henry*; *Bowen* is *Ap Owen* or *Owens*; *Bevan* is *Ap Evan* or *Evans*; *Prytherch* is *Ap Rhydderch* of the ancient British type, to which may be added *Pryce*, *Pierce*, *Preece*, and *Prys* from *Ap Rhys*; *Pugh*, *Bedward*, *Beddoe*, *Bellis*, *Probert*, *Powell*.

Newtown.

J. MOSTYN.

QUERIES.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.—It would be interesting to have personal records of the state of the country about fifty years ago, so that we might more vividly realize the change which has taken place since the Queen ascended the throne. At Oswestry, for example, there were no railways, of course, and no telegraph. I suppose there was no plate-glass, and the shops mostly retained their ancient appearance. There was no smithfield, and the cattle, I suppose, were sold in the street. I cannot say, but I suppose, the householders took it in turn, as they did at Shrewsbury, to act as night-watchmen. There was no "Castle Fields." But I am not trying to describe Oswestry in 1837. I am asking some of the old inhabitants of Oswestry, and Welshpool, and other places, to favour us with pictures of the social and physical condition of these towns in or about that year. W.O.

REPLIES.

OXEN AS BEASTS OF BURDEN (Dec. 24, 1884).

—**JUVENIS** asks when was the use of oxen as beasts of burden general in West Shropshire and Montgomeryshire, and what was the kind of harness used? It appears that they were generally used for ploughing, &c., in the district lying between Newtown and Llanfair Caereinion up to the close of the last century, and there are persons still living who remember them so used on a farm in the parish of Aberhafesp. I cannot just now describe the harness. T.H.J.

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS (Jan. 19, 1887).—I remember being told by an octogenarian, lately deceased, of the observance of a peculiar Christmas custom—the only example

which has come under my notice. When young, she was engaged as domestic servant at a farmhouse in the parish of Bettws-Cedewen. On getting up one Christmas morning she found the breakfast table already laid in a sumptuous manner, an unusual occurrence. When her master and mistress came down, she applied to them for an explanation, and was informed that it was done to give welcome to Joseph and Mary to the house. Is this custom still observed anywhere? T.H.J.

KERRY (Jan. 12, 1887).—In reply to "H.'s" query I believe no History of Kerry, worthy of the name, has yet appeared. The most complete account, perhaps, is to be found in *Lewis's Topographical Dictionary of Wales* (1833) *sub-nomine*. Thomas's *History of St. Asaph* also gives a full account of the church (before its "restoration") and of the living. Mr E. R. Morris in 1870 published in the *Montgomeryshire Collections* the first two chapters of a History of this parish, so ably written and interesting that all who have read them cannot but regret that he so soon halted. There is not a parish in Montgomeryshire, probably, of greater interest to the archaeologist than Kerry; and certainly there is no one more competent than Mr Morris, if he would but take it up again, to do justice to its history. R.W.

MYDDLETONS OF LLANSILIN (Jan. 12, 1887).—There are no inscriptions, tablets, or monuments erected in the church or churchyard of Llansilin to the Myddletons of Plasnewydd. I have examined all the old registers at Llansilin, and, as far as I can recollect, I did not see the names of any of the Myddletons. The registers at the Vicarage are not many years older than the demise of Huw Morus, the poet, which occurred in 1709. It was Richard Wynn, ab Morus Wynn, that erected Plasnewydd. His daughter and heiress, Gwenwyfar, or Gwenllian according to others, married Foulk Myddleton, brother of the great Sir Hugh, and Sir Thomas Myddleton (or Myddelton), Lord Mayor of London, and purchaser of Chirk Castle Estate. Foulk Myddleton of Plasnewydd was succeeded by his son Richard, who was followed by two more of the same name in succession. The Myddletons ended in an heiress named Elizabeth, the sister of the last Richard, who married Thomas Meredith of Pentrebychan, near Ruabon, from whom Plasnewydd was transferred to the Myddletons of Chirk Castle, and afterwards sold, many years ago, by the Myddletons, to the family of the present owner and occupier, Mrs. Hughes.

Llwyndwydd.

LLYWARCH HEN.

The following charities are recorded in Llansilin Church:—Mrs. Anne Myddleton of Plasnewydd left by will interest of £42 towards apprenticing a poor child in the parish once in two years. Sir William Myddleton, Bart., of Chirk Castle, left by will the interest of £20 to be distributed amongst the poor of this parish for ever.

Llansilin.

D.

CURRENT NOTES.

Priors Lee Church was re-opened after restoration last week.

Professor Boyd Dawkins in giving a lecture last week on "The place of the Welsh in the History of Britain" said he believed that nine out of every ten Welshmen of

the old genuine brand were intermediate in character between the former inhabitants and the Celts, for there was distinct evidence of the intermingling during the bronze age, of the small dark people who originally came from the far East, and the invading Celts.

The death is announced of Mr Thomas Thomas, one of the oldest inhabitants of Chester. He was born at Bangor in 1799. He was formerly a well known printer of books and magazines and was also prominent as a founder of Sunday Schools in remote or neglected districts, and his efforts were assisted by the late Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster and some of the local clergy. He was the last survivor of a little band who began a temperance crusade in Chester 54 years ago. Mr Thomas was totally blind for many years before his death.

THE LATE LORD BAGOT.—Lord Bagot died on Wednesday. He was the eldest son of William, second baron, by his marriage with the Lady Louisa Legge, second daughter of the third Earl of Dartmouth, and was born in the year 1811. He was educated at the Charterhouse, Eton, and Magdalene College, Cambridge, and succeeded to the title as third baron in 1856. Lord Bagot was formerly a Lord of the Bedchamber to the Prince Consort, and held the office of a Lord in Waiting to her Majesty from 1866 to 1868, and again from 1874 to 1880. He represented the county of Denbigh in the Conservative interest from 1835 to 1852, when he was defeated by the late Col. Biddulph after a severe contest. Lord Bagot was honorary colonel of the Staffordshire Yeomanry Cavalry Regiment, and a deputy lieutenant and justice of the peace for the county of Stafford. Lord Bagot married in 1851, the Hon. Lucia Caroline Elizabeth Agar-Ellis, eldest daughter of the late Lord Dover and sister of Henry, third Viscount Clifden, by whom he had two sons and four daughters.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

At a meeting of the committee appointed in connection with the restoration of the obelisk on Moel Famau, it was decided not to spend more than £2,000 upon the whole work.

At a public meeting held at Market Drayton, last week, it was unanimously decided that the Jubilee should be celebrated by the restoration and completion of the peal of bells in the tower of the parish church, with the addition thereto of chimes. A committee representative of Nonconformists as well as Churchmen was formed to carry out the proposal.

LLANGOLLEN CHURCH BELLS.

It having been proposed by the Vicar to rebuild the church tower, and set up a peal of eight bells in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee, Mr Taylor, of the firm of Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough, has visited the church, and presented the following report:—"The Rev E. Rhys James.—Rev Sir,—In compliance with your request, we have had the pleasure of making an examination of the four bells in the tower of Llangollen Church, and now respectfully hand you the following report upon them.—We find that one bell is cracked, and another is so seriously damaged that its tone is much impaired. Although the other two are sound, they are not of such a size and note as to be suitable to form part of a good and musical peal. The metal of which they are cast is no doubt of the ordinary kind, i.e., copper and tin, and can be melted and mixed with new to form part of the new peal. The whole of the framework, the fittings (wheels, headstocks, gudgeons, bearings, clappers, &c.), as well as the beams which carry the framework and the floors, are in a most dilapidated condition. They are all thoroughly worn out, and must be entirely new. There is ample room in the tower to carry a very heavy peal of eight bells, perhaps heavier than it would be advisable to hang in it. The peal of eight we should recommend

for the tower is with a tenor of not less than 15 cwt., the total weight of the eight bells being about 65 cwt. This is a peal we can confidently recommend; it will be very musical and effective, and if the alterations in the tower we shall suggest are carried out, the bells will be heard to every advantage in the surrounding district. There is room in the tower for a much larger and grander peal than the one we have proposed, but we have desired to keep well within the limits of safety, yet, at the same time, to propose a peal that will be musical and satisfactory. Enclosed we respectfully submit to you an estimate for the peal of eight we have proposed above, with all necessary fittings and framework fixed complete in the tower ready for ringing, the whole to be finished in the very best manner, with all the latest improvements. The second estimate is for the six largest bells only, of the same peal, but with the framework made for eight bells, so that the two smaller bells, to complete the octave, can be added at a future time, without any alteration to the framework being necessary. In addition to our estimate, some builder's work will be required, viz.:—Four beams to carry the bell-frame, and two new floors between the ringers and the bells; particulars of these we hope to have the pleasure of sending you in a post or two. It will also be desirable to re-arrange the roof of the tower by raising the centre part on four posts with louveres at the sides, to allow of the escape of the sound of the bells. The windows in the bell chamber to be bricked up some five feet. It is also much better for the tone of the bells that the tone should first rise upwards a little, and then pass out of the tower. Before the bells are taken down the clock should be removed, as the dust and dirt would be certain to do it harm. The staircase from the ringers to the bells must also be removed, and a less cumbersome one made in its place. The window in the ringers' chamber (through which we propose to pass the bells in and out of the tower), will have to be taken out, and the new one should be made with casements to open for ventilation. We believe that we have mentioned all the matters necessary in connection with the bells, but if there should be any further information or particulars you may desire to have, we shall be pleased to pay every attention to your enquiries. Soliciting the honour of your valued commands, which we assure you shall have our strictest personal care and attention,—We beg to remain, Rev Sir, your most obedient servants, JOHN TAYLOR & CO."—Mr Stanhope Bull, architect, reports that after a minute survey he finds that "some of the beams carrying the bells are in a dangerously rotten state." The proposed peal of eight bells will cost £459 16s., and the necessary repairs of the tower, £110, making a total of £569 16s.

FEBRUARY 2, 1887.

NOTES.

FELTON (June 10, 1885).—"S" refers to a place of this name near Ludlow. I have a notion that all Feltons have a mound or elevated ground near them, upon which *war fires* were lit. *Bel, pel, phel* and *fel* (as in *rhyfel* or rebellion) meaning war, and *tan*, fire. Are there any mounds or elevated wyle cops of the kind at West Felton, at the one referred to, and other Feltons on the marches of Wales? In Wales Belan, Galfa and Llumon, were all places upon which beaconfires and war signals were lit.

JESSIE.

FOLK LORE.—EVILS COME NOT SINGLY.—Various forms of this proverb are current. Thus, I have heard it said, that when a churchyard is opened to receive the dead, after, it may be, an interval of some months without a funeral, it is sure to be re-opened, almost immediately for a like purpose, and it is said that three deaths or rather burials in the same churchyard are certain to follow each other before the demands of fate are satisfied. Burials do occasionally follow each other in triplets, and when this is the case, the old saying is remembered; when, however, a single burial only occurs, it is forgotten. But strange enough, in most, if not in all parts of England and Wales, there are sayings that in-

time a belief in evils following each other rapidly, and apparently, it is natural to expect each succeeding evil to excel the preceding one in intensity. The quarrymen of Carnarvonshire believe that little accidents in the quarry are always followed by others of a more serious kind, and they expect the chapter of accidents to finish with the death of one or more of their fellow workmen. It is probable that both the beliefs now mentioned can be accounted for on natural grounds. The seeds of death in a neighbourhood are deposited in more than one human being, and hence the deaths that follow each other. And the atmosphere and natural laws have a good deal to do with the quarry accidents, first of all, in consequence of atmospheric influences, a few bits of slate rock fall, and hence the small accidents, and then, through the operation of the same laws, these are followed by a large slip which buries many workmen. These slips are all, undoubtedly, consequent upon natural laws. Another phase of this belief finds expression in—"It never rains but it pours."

E.O.

Denbighshire.

MSS. OF THE EARL OF POWIS.—In the Tenth Report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission (Appendix, Part iv.), Mr Maxwell Lyte gives the following account of the MSS. at Powis Castle:—

The spacious muniment room at Powis Castle contains but few manuscripts earlier than the reign of Elizabeth, the presses and drawers being almost entirely devoted to rentals, leases, and other legal documents of modern date. In some bundles of miscellaneous papers, however, I have been so fortunate as to find a number of letters, etc., relating to political affairs, chiefly in the seventeenth century. These I have arranged according to their dates and subjects, and they now form two separate volumes. The first, labelled "Letters and Papers of Sir Edward Herbert, 1615—1639," contains part of the diplomatic correspondence of the eminent author who is best known under the name of Lord Herbert of Cherbury. Most of the copies of his own letters are in the hand of his secretary, William Boswell, to whom is also due a volume in the British Museum containing transcripts of a few of his State papers. (Add. MS. 7,082.)

The other volume, labelled "Herbert Papers—Miscellaneous, 1586—1735," contains an original account of the proceedings against Mary, Queen of Scots, at Fotheringay, differing somewhat from that given by Camden in his "Annals," a few papers relating to the Civil War, and some other letters of historical interest. I subjoin a calendar of the contents of these two volumes.

"Letters and Papers of Sir Edward Herbert, 1615—1639."

1614[—5], March 2. London. Sir John Danvers to Sir William Herbert. I have received a letter from you with direction for securing your bills for Turin. I had already engaged my credit to Signor Burlimacchi. On Saturday last Sir Arthur Ingram was sworn Cofferer, having paid 2,500*l.* for Sir Robert Vernon's release. This "wrought see much in the stomachs" of some who had been living in assured hope of the place, that they went to the King and told him that many would leave his service if he thus permitted a stranger to purchase the honour and profit for which so many of his servants had spent their time and estates in hope of being advanced in their turns. They offered to repay the money, in order that there might be no such precedent to the disadvantage of the servants of the King's household. The King was much displeased, but he said that he would consider the matter.

1615, April 8. London. The same to [the same]. I have procured Signor Burlimacchi's directions for your credit at Lyons and Paris.

1615, May 12. Lady Danvers to her son, Sir Edward Herbert. It is strange to me to hear you complain of want of care in your absence. Your abode is so short in any place that our letters come not to your hands. Sir John Danvers is so careful to keep you from lack of money while you are abroad that, when your bailiffs fail payment he goes to your merchant and offers himself. There never was "a tenderer heart or a lovingr minde" in any man than is in him towards you. Your bailiffs have not yet paid your brothers all their annuities due at Midsummer last, and only half of those due at Christmas. It is very ill that you have such officers. I hope it will bring you home. Your sister Jones has brought a boy. Lady Vachell lies dying. The bell has twice gone for her. Your wife and children are well. I send you the letter of little Florence. Let your dear children draw you home. I desire more to see you than anything else in the world. I have received the patent for your brother William. Sir John has been with the Ambassador, who stays for the coming of Sir James Sandilands (Sandaline). Seal.

1615, June 12. Thomas Lucy to the same at Lady Danvers's house at Charing Cross. When I heard that you were "under hold" at Lyons, the knowledge I had how ill you can digest the least indignity made me prophecy that you would come off honourably. I cannot but "congratulate with you." You will on your return find the face of the Court much changed. It is expected that the King will shortly make a "scambling"—as the boys call it—of the many places which he has hitherto "whoorded" in Lord Somerset, and so the poor bird will prove as naked of feathers as he is already of friends.

1615, June 16. Eyton. Francis Newport to the same at the Hague. I have received a letter from you dated at Nimeguen the 12th (i.e. the 2nd) of this month. I am glad that you have come out of Italy, and that you are so near home. There are many and great reasons for your return. Your brother [John] Vaughan is dead. Your children are well. Dick is here, Ned and Betty at Haughmond with my daughter [Mary] Harley, whose husband is to be delivered of his debts by selling £400 a year of his inheritance in reversion. My wife presents her respects, as does my daughter Newport "the new borne ladye," who brought her husband a girl on the 3rd of March, your birthday. Her husband, the young knight, is at London. Heraldic seal.

1619, May 7. "Instructions for our trustie and welbelovd servant, Sir Edward Herbert, knight, our Ambassador with the French King," signed by James I., and Sir George Calvert. (Printed in "Montgomeryshire Collections" of the Powys Land Club, vol. vi., p. 417.)

1619, May 22. Greenwich. The Duke of Lenox to Sir Edward Herbert, Ambassador in France. A letter of recommendation for a gentleman who is doubly his cousin. Seal.

1619, June 4. Whitehall. The Lords of the Council to the same. We recommend to your consideration the complaint of divers merchants of London, whose ship, laden with merchandise to the value of £10,000, was surprised in the road of Tunis by one Martini, a gentleman of the French King's chamber. The business has continued in suit for five years, but they have not had any relief.

1619, June 6. N.S. Paris. [Sir E. Herbert] to the Elector Palatine at Heidelberg. Reminds him of the promise made to him by the King. (Draft in French.)

1619, June 30. Paris. The same to the same. Recommends a wealthy gentleman named d'Augiacourt, Maitre d'hotel of the Queen of France, who desires to serve him

with a thousand horses, or five hundred, or whatever number may be required. He is a Picard, and related to the Duke of Lenox. (Draft in French.)

A duplicate of the same.

1619, July 10. The Duke de Montmorenci to Sir Edward Herbert. A complimentary letter. (French.) Heraldic seals.

1619, July 11. Heidelberg. The Elector Palatine to [Sir E. Herbert]. I have received your letters of the 3rd and 30th of June. Give my thanks to M. du Hallier and M. d'Augincourt for their offers and kind wishes. The Princes and States united with me have given orders for the levy of a certain number of soldiers for our defence in case of need. Matters have not been carried to such an extremity that there is no longer any hope of peace. We have not yet taken any decision for the levy of foreign troops, and we shall not do so until we see what course matters will take. There is no occasion that the two gentlemen should put themselves to trouble or expense. (Copy in French.)

1619, August 5. Paris. [Sir E. Herbert] to the Elector Palatine. I offer the services of M. de Jay, a very brave and distinguished soldier. He will take with him a certain number of cavalry or of infantry, or he will merely take his ordinary suite of twelve or fifteen gentlemen. An early answer will be a favour, for he eagerly awaits your orders. (Draft in French.)

1619, August 8. Proceedings in the Parliament of Paris concerning the suit of Maurice Abbot and another against Theodore du Mantin. (French.)

Memorandum that the greater part of the Court of Parliament held that the King might treat as contraband goods any lead, tin, or iron, carried by the English to the Turks.

1619, August 28. Newbottle. The Duke of Lenox to Sir E. Herbert. I have sent some merlins (*esmerillons*) to the King [of France], which will come later than I expected, because I stayed in the north of Scotland longer than I intended. If these please him, I will provide him every year earlier.

1619, September 1, O.S. Merlou Castle. Sir E. Herbert to Sir R. Naunton. Concerning some expressions in his letter to Dr. Mayerne, which have been misunderstood, and concerning — Gaultier. (Draft.)

Same day and place. The same to Mr Packer. Concerning — Gaultier. (Draft.)

1619, September 3. Whitehall. Sir R. Naunton to Sir E. Herbert. Inasmuch as the plague is at Paris, his Majesty will have you wait upon the King at Fontainebleau for the taking of the oath, unless he is desirous to put it off until his return. Heraldic seal.

1619, September 9, O.S. Merlou. [Sir E. Herbert] to Sir R. Naunton. Account of an interview with M. de Maretz, concerning the conveyance of certain coffers, etc. The Duke de Luines observes the Queen more than any, and she shows the best countenance to him. No man understands what this means, especially as we hear nothing of her return to Angers, which was purposed within two days. (Draft.)

1619, September 12. Merlou. [Sir E. Herbert] to M. de Maretz. Concerning the rings and the furniture of the late Queen. (Draft or copy, in French.)

1619, September 24. Heidelberg. The Elector Palatine to Sir E. Herbert. Lord Doncaster has informed me that the Archbishop of Treves has been induced to go to the King of France to represent to him in the name of the Emperor and the whole Popish league that I and the other Princes and united States have made great preparations for war, in order to exterminate the Roman Catholics and their religion in Germany. You know the

falsehood of this sinister charge. At the late Diet of Ratisbon the Evangelical States complained of the partiality shown towards the Roman Catholics, and the Emperor Matthias promised to call another Diet, in order to bring about an agreement. The other party, however, prevailed at the Imperial Court. Bohemia has become the scene of the most bloody and horrible tragedies that have ever been heard of among Christians. The Roman Catholic Princes and Electors have collected a great number of soldiers. Foreigners, moreover, mostly in the pay of Spain, have been allowed to pass through the Empire into Bohemia, contrary to the Imperial Constitutions. The Princes and States united with me have armed in self-defence, considering the trouble that might arise after the disbandment of the troops in Bohemia. I hope that you will explain this at the French Court, and remind the King and his Ministers of the services rendered to his crown by this Electoral house. You will thus, I am sure, be doing what is agreeable to the King of Great Britain. I have instructed my agent, M. Gueretin, to confer with you. You will have heard that the States of Bohemia have unanimously elected me, although I had not in any way aspired to that crown. The circumstances make one believe that it is the will of God.

[1619,] September 15. Havering. John Packer to Sir E. Herbert. Concerning M. Gaultier.

1619, September 29. O.S. Merlou. [Sir E. Herbert] to Sir R. Naunton. Concerning Dr. Mayerne, Gaultier, and the coffers. I understand that the King here has written to the King my master and to the Elector Palatine to dissuade the acceptance of the crown of Bohemia. They have however a great party here, and, if the King be indifferent, it will certainly be the stronger. I cannot believe that a state so unsettled and tottering is ready yet to declare itself on either side. It is extremely needy at present, the King having stayed his journey from Amboise to Chartres a great while, for want of money. We expect the Court shortly at Compiègne in Picardy. News about different persons at Court. The Queen complained that M. de Montbazon, who was sent to attend her, was only a spy, and the King has commanded him to return. (Draft or copy.)

1619, October 10. Merlou. The same to the Count de Tillieres. I have received your letter from Canterbury. I will endeavour, like you, to maintain friendship between the two crowns. (Draft or copy in French.)

1619, October 16. Merlou. The same to the Duke de Mayenne. I request a letter to the Mayor and jurats of Bordeaux ordering them to allow free pass to M. de Bouye for twenty barrels (*pieces*) of Frontignac wine for the use of the King my master. (Copy in French.)

1619, November 24, O.S. Paris. The same to Sir R. Naunton. Concerning the assembly of Protestants at Loudun, and the affairs of Bearne. This state is too poor and too unsettled to stir. They lay new impositions on the people, who faint under the old. A great sum of money is expected from the Parisians as the price of the removal of the courts to this place, although the contagion [of small-pox] seems extinguished. If the King were to send an army, they would not know whom to trust. The Count of Furstenberg came yesterday. The news of the coronation in Bohemia was received here "with incredible joy of all those of the Religion, and of every one not of the Religion whom they call *Bons François*." News about Prince Philibert of Savoy, the King of Spain, and others. (Copy.)

1619, May to December. An account of the engagements between the English fleet, under Sir Thomas Dale-

and the Dutch fleet, in the Indian Ocean, describing the movements of the different ships. (French. Copy made in July 1620.)

1619, December 24, O.S. The Hague. Viscount Doncaster to [Sir E. Herbert]. On my arrival at Heidelberg, which was my first stage in Germany, I found the state of affairs not so much inclined to peace as I expected and hoped. The princes of the Union, whom I found assembled at Heilbronn, had resolved for their security to raise the army of 10,000 or 12,000 foot, and 3,000 horse, which they still hold in pay. If I had gone, as ordered, to the Duke of Saxony, Ferdinand would have been at Frankfort before I could have met him. I therefore went on directly to Ferdinand, whom I met at Salzburg. The answer he had prepared for me was an acknowledgment of our master's favour in the office of mediator, and a refusal of it because the matter had been referred to four Princes of the Empire. The Councillor who was appointed to confer with me at last "adjourned me back" to his master. Ferdinand would give me no answer because the Spanish Ambassador, Count d'Ogniate, was not there. I wished to obtain a cessation of arms, and to go to Prague. On my return to Hanau near Frankfort (into which no strangers are admitted during the Electoral Diet), I repaired to the Count d'Ogniate. We could not agree upon the time for a cessation of arms, he desiring the election before a truce. Ferdinand's answer was in substance the same as his former answer. In this time the Ambassadors sent by the States of Bohemia presented a protest against the admission of Ferdinand as the Elector of that kingdom. Finding no disposition to peace in either part, I pretended the necessity of making a journey to the Spa for my health. Here I received the news that the Prince Palatine was chosen King of Bohemia. I was afterwards told to return to Frankfort to congratulate the Emperor on his election, and to protest that our King had neither hand nor knowledge of this action of the Bohemians, and to decline for him the office of mediator. This cost me a long and wearisome journey to Gratz. I have been commanded to thank these States for their readiness to send horsemen and musketeers when it was apprehended that the Archduke intended to invade the lower Palatinate, and to excuse his Majesty for not declaring himself in the main cause, until he has satisfied all the parties that he was no contriver of the proceedings of the Bohemians. This is a compendium of my whole "Ambassage." (2 sheets.)

(To be continued.)

NORTH WALIAN SCRAPIANA. IV. (Jan. 19, 1887). Mr Askew Roberts, in his Welsh Guide, did more real service to the public than any other writer, or compiler we had in relation to the useful Scrapiana of his country. have He could not, of course, tell all that could be told about given places, but he has said enough about them to lead to further enquiry and research. Segontium, for instance, both was, and is, and ever will be, a renowned place in our history, and just at this moment particular attention is given to it, because Sir Llewelyn Turner has said—"Welsh tradition says Segontium was consumed by fire, and therefore Segontium could not have been inhabited after the Roman occupation." That is a somewhat strong conclusion from a very weak premise—*tradition!* I have looked in vain in our books for any such "tradition," and must remain in my ignorance until Sir Llewelyn refers me to this trusted authority. There is a well known tradition that Segontium was consumed by fire in 1274, when Madoc ap Llywelyn ap Griffith, headed the insurrection which has been alluded to in a former note. That was the time when Sir Roger de Pulesden was

hanged, and, as *Carnhuanawc* says, "Caer-yn-Arfon was burnt to the ground." Sir Llewelyn Turner has not distinguished between the one tradition and the other, and seeing how dependable a Welsh scholar Mr Price was, we can find no difficulty in determining that, whether the Romans left the country in the fifth century, and the Britons occupied this part of it, including Segontium, in 1294, Sir Llewelyn Turner's assertions can have no value of any kind, as historical fact. According to my own reading of Welsh history, Cadwallon, the son of Cadfan, actually occupied Segontium as the place where his Court was held. That was before the Royal residence had been removed to Aberffraw, and Penmynydd, in Anglesey. Hugh, Earl of Chester, had a fortress in the immediate neighbourhood; and Llywelyn granted a charter to the Priory of Penmon in the year 1221, which is said to have been issued from Segontium. I am not sure that Camden does not say in terms that *Sistuntiorum* signifies the fort of Segontium.

The Britons were undoubtedly there long before the Romans came to these Isles; they were there under Maximus soon after they left, and, as we have seen, they were there also shortly anterior to Edward the First's days, and inasmuch as he builded the Castle of Carnarvon, walled the town, and probably filled it with his English retainers, it does seem perfectly clear that the Britons dwelt at Segontium after Edward came there, just outside the English fortress, but subject to English rule. Having written so far, I have noticed a letter from a writer who is evidently well read in the British histories, and he appears to me to confirm all, or nearly all the preceding statements; but he adds a very important paragraph, which had escaped my own observation, with a view of showing that the Britons were at Segontium both before and after the Roman occupations. He says:—"Not only can antiquaries prove that Segontium was inhabited *after* the Roman period, but also that it was inhabited *before* the Roman period. Certainly we can trace roads to Segontium, which proves that there was a town, but those were roads that were formerly used by the Britons, as is proved by the names given to places where roads cross rivers, such as *Rut y mor* (Voryd), *Rut yr allt* (Rhyddalt), and *Rut hir* (Rhydd-dir, on the shore of the Menai.) These names were in use before the Romans came to this country, as we can find that Richborough has been called *Rutupis*, and that also was before the Romans landed in Britain. Mr Burton in his *Antonine's Itinerary*, treating of Rutupis, says that the word *Rut* is derived from the British word *Rhyd*, and was used as well in Assyria and on the coast of Barbary. Pliny tells us the very same name was used for a town and harbour. I think this word *Rhyd*, which indicates the old roads leading to Segontium, should have its own date, that is many years before the Romans landed at Britain."

In short, the Turner theory will not hold water, it has no sound foundation; but we should be none the less obliged to the worthy knight for giving prominence to an opinion—or, if you will, to an assertion—which is likely to provoke enquiry. If Sir Llewelyn Turner can produce any old, or newly found records to sustain his contention, then so much of our history will have to be re-written, and the gain will be ours, even if in acquiring it, we have to abandon our long-cherished views. There

is no place where this question can be better discussed than in *Bye-Gones*, and I make no apology therefore for sending this note to you.

A NORTH WALIAN ANTIQUARY.

QUERIES.

OLD CUSTOM AT OSWESTRY.—Can any of your many readers tell the origin of the custom observed in Oswestry about 50 years ago, of the colliers from the Drill colliery carrying a board with a large quantity of candles stuck in clay round the town on certain nights of the year, and lighting them at the doors of houses where they solicited alms? T.A.D.

REPLIES.

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS (Jan. 5, 12, 1887).—The custom of "first foot" may not be an Oswestry custom, but on New Year's morning, on returning home from a watch-night service, my wife was met by the servant, who opened the door with the remark, "You should not have entered the house first, Mr. ——— who is a dark man, should have entered first." Being a native of Oswestry, and our servant coming to us from Oswestry, made the note in your number of Jan. 12th interesting to me. T.A.D.

East Lodge, East Greenwich.

As I was returning home on New Year's morning from Watch-night service at Oswestry a lady asked me to go into her house first. I may say that I am "dark." The lady comes from the neighbourhood of Ellesmere. J.T.W.

CURRENT NOTES.

It is proposed, says a London correspondent, by the friends of the late Randolph Caldecott, to place a memorial tablet to his memory in the crypt of St. Paul's, beside the monument to George Cruikshank. The consent of the Dean has been obtained, and the design for the tablet will be prepared by Mr A. Gilbert, A.R.A.

The death of Mr Rowland Hugh Pritchard, a well-known composer of Welsh hymn tunes, took place at Holywell, last week, at the age of seventy-four years. The deceased was a native of Bala, where he was baptised by "Charles-y-Bala." He was well known throughout the Principality, his tunes being sung in all the Welsh chapels.

Considerable interest has been aroused at Hereford by the continued discovery of human remains in large quantities in the Castle Green, the site of the old Castle, but now public grounds. Three skeletons were found laid within hard stone coffins, 7ft. 6in. in length. These skeletons were of tall men, over 6ft., and lay at a depth of 4ft. from the surface.

Further subsidences of land are reported from Northwich. At Dunkirk, near the town, a large area subsidises at present at the rate of one foot per week. At the Wheatshaf Hotel, Northwich, which a few months ago had to be propped up, a number of men were engaged in the cellar last week placing about twenty beer barrels just received from the brewery upon the stands, when the floor gave way under them, and two men, with several full beer-barrels, were engulfed in a deep pit, which immediately filled with water. The men were got out with difficulty in an exhausted condition.

The marriage of Viscount Parker, eldest son of the Earl of Macclesfield, with Miss Caroline Pryse Loveden,

daughter of the late Mr Pryse Loveden of Gogerddan, Cardiganshire, was celebrated in St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, on Wednesday. The marriage was strictly private, no invitations having been issued, and only the nearest relations of the bride and bridegroom being present. The bridegroom was attended by his brother, the Hon. Sidney Parker, as best man. The bride was accompanied to the church by her uncle, Col. Pryse. The Hon. and Rev. Archibald Parker, brother of the bridegroom, officiated, Colonel Pryse giving his niece away. Immediately after the ceremony, Viscount and Viscountess Parker, left for Mardington, Staffordshire.

The living of Hargrave, near Chester, has been offered to the Rev. T. J. Evans, M.A., curate of Eccleston, near Chester. Mr Evans, who is the eldest son of the late Rev. David Evans, Rector of Llansantffraid G.D., was educated at Ruthin Grammar School under the Rev. George Preston, M.A., (the present Headmaster of the King's School, Chester), whence he obtained the Powis Scholarship, Vaughan Exhibition, and a Scholarship at Jesus College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A., in 1879, and M.A., in 1883. After taking his degree, Mr Evans was appointed assistant classical master at the King's School, Chester, and in a few months afterwards was ordained by the late Dr. Jacobson, Bishop of Chester, to St. Martin's Welsh Church, Chester. Owing to ill-health he was obliged to relinquish his scholastic duties, and was licensed to the Curacy of Eccleston, where he has been for the last three years. The living of Hargrave, which is of the nett value of £250 a year and house, is in the gift of trustees, viz., the Duke of Westminster, the Bishop and Dean of Chester, and Colonel Humberston of Denbigh.

The will (dated March 24, 1886), with two codicils (dated April 3rd and 12th following), of Mr Alexander Balfour, of the firm of Balfour, Williamson, and Co., ship-owners and merchants, of Liverpool, late of Mount Alyn, near Rossett, Denbighshire, who died on April 16th last, was proved at the St. Asaph District Registry on Jan. 6, by Mrs Jessie Balfour, the widow, Stephen Williamson, Samuel Smith, M.P., and Thomas Matheson, four of the executors, the value of the personal estate in the United Kingdom amounting to over £132,000. This sum, however, is exclusive of the value of his settled and real property, and his property abroad, which is of nearly an equal amount. The testator gives his estate of Ashgrove, in which his wife has a life interest under settlement, to his eldest son Frederick; £14,000 to his wife; and £15,000 to each of his children on the death of their mother, subject to a control thereafter, which he gives to his wife. The residue of his real and personal estate he leaves, upon trust, for his wife for life, or so long as she remains his widow, and then for all his sons, as she, if she dies his widow, shall appoint, and, in default of any such appointment, to his sons equally.

THE HIGHER EDUCATION OF GIRLS IN WALES.—A meeting of the Association for Promoting the Higher Education of Girls in Wales was held at Cardiff recently. The Mayor (Mr Morgan Morgan) presided, and there was a large number of ladies and gentlemen present. Mr Douglas Richmond addressed the meeting in support of the movement. He said he hoped any association that might be at work in Wales would frankly and freely come forward and let them know, not only what they wanted, but what they might find in the shape of endowments that were not known to the Commissioners.—Mrs Bryant, D.Sc., proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting cordially approves of the formation of the Association for the Promotion of the Higher Education of Girls in Wales." Mrs Bryant stated that that afternoon they had succeeded

in forming an Association for the Promotion of the Higher Education of Girls.—The Rev. Archdeacon Griffiths having briefly seconded the proposition, Miss Dilys Davies referred at length to the steps that led to the formation of the Association.—Miss Hughes, Cambridge, proposed—‘That this meeting is of opinion that due provision for the education of girls should form an essential part of the Intermediate Education Act expected for Wales.’—Professor Reichel seconded the resolution, and said they should insist on, or very strongly recommend, the establishment of girls’ schools concurrently with boys’ schools, and, at the same time, adopt, as the best of the three possible systems, the dual system of education.—Professor Powell supported the motion, which was carried unanimously.—The meeting concluded with the usual votes thanks.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

“Ludlow and its Castle” is the subject of a paper with engravings, which appears in “Illustrations” for February, from the pen of Mr M. Powis Bale, C.E.

Mr Samuel Smith, M.P., has presented to his Flintshire constituents an illuminated address of thanks, in the centre of which is a likeness of the honourable member.

An *Almanack* issued in connection with the Severn Fishery District (*Gloucester Journal* Printing Works), will be very useful to fishermen and others. It contains a calendar, with the rising and setting of the sun and moon, average rainfall, &c. and notes on the movements of fish and the fishery regulations.

Deacon's Legal Handbook (London: C. W. Deacon and Co.) is designed to set forth “in a clear and concise way” the “principal laws affecting the ordinary intercourse between man and man.” The first part is prepared by Mr Morgan Lloyd, Q.C., and the second, in which law-forms are given, with explanatory notes, by Mr Matthew Henry Jones, solicitor, Liverpool.

Book-lovers like to know everything about the production of books. The last addition to the Book-Lover's Library (published in so attractive a form by Mr Elliot Stock), on *Modern Methods of Illustrating Books*, is therefore an appropriate one. After a short sketch of the older methods of illustration, engraving on wood and copper-plate and lithography, the writer describes the many new processes, most of them founded upon or connected with photography, which have worked a revolution in the production of pictures. Some of these processes are conducted in secret and cannot be described in detail, but we have an account of most of them in this book. Some of these processes produce exceedingly beautiful results, and as they also save a vast amount of labour and expense, wood and copper-plate engravings have been to a large extent pushed out of the field. Fresh inventions are often recorded, and we shall probably see a still greater advance in the art of book illustration.

In the *Life of the Rev. William Morgan*, Professor of Theology at the Presbyterian College, Carmarthen (London: Elliot Stock), the writer, Mr John Lloyd Morgan, barrister-at-law, says that frequent requests by many friends of his father for some memorial of his life have led to the publication of this volume. The Rev. William Morgan took so active a part in the struggle for religious liberty in Wales that it is natural to look for some account of his life, and although the book will be chiefly interesting to his friends, we suppose, from the positions which he occupied, they must number sufficient persons to be almost a respectable reading public of themselves! He was professor of a popular college, minister of a chapel, and also an active champion of Liberalism and Nonconformity. The true liberalism of his character seems to be shown by

the terms of friendship and regard in which, though a staunch Independent, he lived with the Unitarian members of the College, and it is pleasant to see that he preached a funeral sermon for the Principal, Dr Hunter, at the Unitarian Chapel, Carmarthen. Mr Morgan's most distinguished antagonist was Bishop Connop Thirlwall, to whom he wrote a long letter on the injustice of denominational education by the State, and the great prelate courteously acknowledged the communication. In the struggle against Church Rates Mr Morgan also took a leading part, and he was never ashamed of his “political Nonconformity” in days when many Dissenters were still timid and half-hearted. His personal character seems to have been a winning one, and he was one of those men who help to make Christianity respected as the religion of humanity, and not merely sectarianism or ecclesiasticism. He seems to have inherited the true religion and undefiled of his father, of whom the following story is told:—

A farmer living in the neighbourhood was much opposed to the religious work in which David Morgan was so zealously engaged, and endeavoured—as is frequently the case—to excuse his own conduct by suggesting doubts on the genuineness of his motives. It is said that with a view of ascertaining whether he carried out in his life the lessons which he publicly taught, this neighbour on one occasion secretly followed David Morgan to a fair, where he had a horse to sell that had a hidden blemish, which he suspected that he would try to conceal. At length he heard a person inquiring the price of the horse. The price being named, he said, “It is too low for so good an animal,” but David Morgan replied, “It has a blemish which you cannot see.” His religious neighbour, overhearing this conversation, was satisfied thereafter that David Morgan's life and teaching were in perfect harmony.

Many pages of the book are occupied with sermons and letters. Indeed, Mr Morgan's life seems to have been singularly uneventful, and this record, as we have said, will be chiefly valued by his friends and religious and political admirers.

THE LATE ARCHDEACON ALLEN.

(Dec. 22, 1886.)

The *Rugeley and Brereton Parish Magazine*, for January 7th, contains an In Memoriam of Archdeacon Allen, from which we make the following extracts:—

“The Archdeacon was one of six sons, brought up in a country rectory in Pembrokeshire; of these, all have rendered the world eminent service, and five have been what is termed distinguished. The oldest was an early pioneer in the movement for the higher education of women; on this enterprise he spared neither time nor thought nor trouble nor money; the second, the only one now surviving, is the Dean of St. David's, who has for years devoted himself to the rebuilding of that grand and most interesting cathedral, and who has been and still is, though more than eighty, architect and clerk of the works and chief contributor to the restoration; the third was a devoted parish priest; the fourth, a commander in the navy, died before his prime, but not without honour, in the Niger Expedition; the fifth was in the Indian Civil Service and became a member of the Supreme Council; the youngest was the subject of this brief sketch. When quite a little lad he was sent to Westminster. It was his only school. He was there the contemporary and intimate friend of many who have since become famous, and whilst at Cambridge he belonged to the ‘set,’ celebrated by Tennyson in the ‘In Memoriam,’ who used to meet and—

Hold debate, a band
Of youthful friends, on mind and art
And labour and the changing mart,
And all the framework of the land.

“Soon after his ordination he was selected by the Government of the day to be the first inspector of schools in England. It may then appear strange that with his

recognised abilities, and very noble character (John Keble said of him that he had the largest mind and largest heart of almost any man he knew) he never rose above the ecclesiastical position to which he attained nearly at the beginning of his public career. For this he had chiefly to thank himself — and certainly if he had ever thought of it, it would have been as one of the mercies of his life. To the poor, whether of his own order or others, he was gentleness itself, but he would not allow a rich man, or a big squire, or a nobleman, or a statesman, to do wrong without strongly, and, if necessary, openly protesting against it. Major Dobbin, in *Vanity Fair*, was not a man whom the great as a rule would care to promote, and the Archdeacon, who was the original of that character, was less likely to be in favour with them than the major. He was, whilst in health and strength, one of the most outspoken guardians of public morals, one of those men who defeat tricks, check jobbery, purify society, and prevent iniquity from coming in like a flood. Bishop Lonsdale was wont to say that 'No one feared man less or God more than John Allen.' The close of his life was singularly peaceful. Some three years ago he was transferred, by the kindness of the present Bishop of Lichfield, from Pries to the Mastership of St. John's Hospital; and in this quiet post for nearly twelve months he was calmly waiting for the end. He had fought a good fight, and God in His mercy allowed him before leaving this troubled world to enter into His rest. It was a time of ever-growing gentleness and of deepening humility—during long hours of weariness, not a word of impatience or a murmur escaped him. He listened eagerly to all that was read to him, joined devoutly in the prayers that were said beside him, and showed thankfulness for every little favour done to him, and when at midnight on Monday, December 13th, the cry was heard, 'Behold, the Bridegroom cometh,' the 51st Psalm, to express his penitence, and the well-known hymn, 'Rock of Ages,' to show forth his trust and praise, were read by his own desire, and he went forth, after seventy-six years' faithful service to meet his Lord. The death of so tender a husband, so good a father, so loyal a friend, so useful a public servant, so chivalrous an English gentleman, so sincere a Christian, so true a man, has mellowed if it has not marred the happiness of many a loving heart at this Christmas season; but for him no sorrow need be felt. At length he knows what Christmas really means."

FEBRUARY 9, 1887.

NOTES.

LAY SUBSIDY.—1641, May 8. Return of the payments made by the laity of each County in England and Wales to a subsidy in the (1) 7th James I., amounting in all to £71,630 9s 11d.—[*Hist. MSS. Com. 4 App.*, p. 63.] If this document be perfect and is a detailed transcript of the Hundred Return, it would be valuable for genealogical purposes, as these returns give the name of each contributor, the township, and parish where he resided. There are many returns at the Record Office, London, but all, or nearly all, are imperfect. They extend from Hen. VIII. to Wm. III.,

and are indexed (i.e., the Montgomery ones) ——— to

223

406

222

335

X.

(1) 1609.

JOHN EDWARDES OF CHIRK.—1626, May. Petition of John Edwardes the elder of Chirke, that the order made by this house in his cause against his son may be discharged. Same date a Petition of John Edwardes the younger that the order made by their Lordships on the 9th of July, 1625, in his suit against John Edwardes the elder may be confirmed. Annexed, the order referred to above, 9 July, 1625; same date draft order on the petitions of Sir John Savage and John Edwardes. [*Hist. MSS. Com. Report 4*, p. 12.]

Z.

MISS MELLON AT BRIDGNORTH.—The memoirs of Miss Mellon (afterwards Duchess of St. Alban's), contain the following account of a night which the actress spent in the brickfields at Bridgnorth:—

During the winter of 1790, Harriot Mellon, was announced to appear in a juvenile character at Bridgnorth. One night there was considerable delay in commencing, and when the scene came wherein Harriot should have appeared, another child went through the character. It then transpired that Mrs Entwistle had had a quarrel with her daughter respecting the performance, and while dressing her for the part had beaten her so severely that Harriot ran out of the house without frock, shawl, or bonnet, the mother following with vows of vengeance. Fear lent the girl wings, she ran through the North Gate, and entered some fields, where in the darkness her mother lost all trace of her. The performance concluded, but the frightened child did not return. Mr and Mrs Entwistle sought in every likely place, and the manager's sons were out during the entire night, but no trace of her could be found. A severe frost had for some time prevailed, and the searchers themselves were almost perished with the extreme cold. The next day passed in fruitless search; but on Sunday, about mid-day, when the manager's family had just sat down to dinner, poor Harriot slowly put her face into the room, but scarcely bearing the appearance of anything human. Her arms were pressed tightly across her figure, shivering with cold, her fine complexion was totally concealed by a thick coating of black, which was furrowed by the tears she had shed, and her long black hair, covered with hoar-frost, was matted in heavy masses. The story she told of her wanderings was pitiful. When she escaped she ran on pursued by fear of her mother until she was compelled to stop from sheer exhaustion. After crying and resting a long time, she looked around her, and seeing some lights, which she took for Bridgnorth, she set out to reach them, though almost too cold to move. These lights proved to be the fires of coal-pits and brick-kilns. To warm herself she drew near to the fires, but the men attending them alarmed her, and she hid herself in the thick smoke from the kilns, and had to change her place often to escape being seen. When day-light came, and the smoke could no longer hide her, she walked about in the fields until she caught sight of the church steeples of Bridgnorth, and made her way to the house of the manager.

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

QUERIES.

COWNO.—In the tenth report of the Deputy Keeper of the Records, reference is made to the request of Sir Arthur Darey, Knight, made 2 July, 37th Henry VIII. (1545) to purchase from the Crown, among other places, Rents in the town of *Cowno*, and in the parish of Worthyn, late of the Abbey of Llanllygan, and of the

Monastery of Strata Marcella. Is *Cowno* a misprint for *Carno*? Or, if not, where is *Cowno*? Can any contributor to *Bye-Gones* say? QUERIST.

REPLIES.

HISTORY OF KERRY (Jan. 12, 26, 1887).—I should like to add a word on this subject. I have never laid it aside, though so many years have passed since the first instalment of it appeared in the *Montgomeryshire Collections*. Some obstacles existed which have now been removed. I think I may assure "R.W." and others who take an interest in Kerry, that an instalment will appear in October of this year, and a continuation of the subject in each Part till completed.

London.

E.R.M.

CURRENT NOTES.

The death is announced of Mrs Jenkins of Cruckton Hall, the wife of Major-General Jenkins.

We are informed that the living of Trefonen has been accepted by the Rev George Williams, Vicar of Glyn-dyfrdwy.

Mr C. B. Clough of Boughton House, Chester, and Llwyn Offa, Flintshire, an active magistrate for the county, died on Friday, aged 69. He was a brother of Arthur Hugh Clough, the poet, and educated at Rugby, under Dr Arnold.

There is resident in Tram Roadside, Merthyr Tydfil, a widow named Ellen Lewis, who is said to be in her 104th year. She is blind, but is able to walk about and chat. She has just had her photograph taken, and a copy has been forwarded to the Queen.

The balance-sheet of the National Eisteddfod held at Carnarvon last September shows a surplus of £60 6s 8d. Of this half has been handed to the National Eisteddfod Association, who will publish the prize compositions, and half to the furnishing fund of the Carnarvon Institute.

Lady Louisa Cotes died at Pitchford-hall, near Shrewsbury, on Saturday. She was the last surviving daughter of Charles, third and last Earl of Liverpool, was born 28th March, 1814, and married 5th September, 1839, Mr John Cotes, of Woodcote, Salop, and was left a widow in January 1874.

The Rev. Frederick Vernon, B.A., vicar of Shapwick, Somersetshire, having been presented by the patron, Sir V. R. Corbet, Bart., to the vicarage of Shawbury, in this county, rendered vacant by the decease of the Rev. G. R. Edwards, was inducted a few days ago into the living by the Bishop of Lichfield.

The most costly water-colour in the world is illustrated in the *British Architect* of Saturday, February 4. The work in question measures 10½ inches by 14½ inches, and is valued at over £1,800, or nearly £1 for every year of the Christian Era. This superb water-colour, by Meissonier, illustrates a horse-soldier on outpost duty, and has been sketched in pen-and-ink for the first time by T. Raffles Davison.

The marriage of the Countess Grosvenor, widow of Earl Grosvenor, and mother of the heir to the Westminster title and estates, with Mr George Wyndham, of the 16th Lancers, eldest son of the Hon. Percy Wyndham, and nephew of Lord Leconfield, was privately celebrated on Monday by special licence in the chapel attached to Eaton-hall. The bride was given away by the Duke of Westminster.

The Rev. John Jones, Felinfoel, president of the Welsh Baptist Union, died suddenly on Thursday afternoon. He was one of the most popular ministers in the denomination. Mr Jones was for many years one of the leaders of the Liberal party in Wales. He was the author of several works, and was the editor for many years, and up to the time of his death, of *Seren Cymru* (Star of Wales), the weekly organ of the Welsh Baptists. His Church at Felinfoel, was one of the largest in the Principality.

The annual meeting of the members of the Royal Cambrian Academy of Art was held on Wednesday at Conway, Mr H. Clarence White, the president, occupying the chair. It was stated that the Queen had signified her acceptance of a Jubilee Album, containing sketches of Welsh scenery, and that it would be on view at Plas Mawr. Reference was also made to the efforts which are being made to establish at Cardiff, in connection with the existing art gallery at Plas Mawr, Conway, a National Institute for Wales, in which the Royal Cambrian Academy is to have prominence. Mr Clarence White was re-elected president, Mr W. D. Barker vice-president, and Mr W. L. Bankes honorary secretary and treasurer.

The death is announced of a well-known Cardiganshire gentleman and county magistrate, Mr William Jones, of Llwynygroes. Mr Jones was born in 1828 at Hafodau, in the Rheidol Valley, where his family have been resident since the early part of the sixteenth century. In 1859 Mr William Jones was made a justice of the peace, and in the following year deputy-lieutenant for the county of Cardigan. He was also one of the Commissioners of Income Tax. He filled the office of chairman of Lampeter Board of Guardians for 28 years, and he had been chairman of the Lampeter Agricultural Society ever since its resuscitation ten years ago. He was an ardent Liberal in politics, and a staunch Churchman, and had been churchwarden of Llanwnnen Church for the last 30 years.

We regret to record the death of Mr Thomas Davies, of Llanidloes, at his residence, Highgate House, on Wednesday last. The deceased gentleman, who was brother of the Town Clerk, Mr J. D. Davies, had been in failing health for some time past. He was senior partner in the flannel manufacturing firm of Messrs T. and E. Davies, of the Phoenix and Bridge End Mills, Llanidloes, and who are large employers of labour. His death has cast a gloom upon the town, where he was universally respected and his presence will be sorely missed by his sorrowing family and by a wide circle of friends. Mr Thomas Davies, who was a Liberal in politics, entered the Town Council in 1863 and continued an active member of that body until his death. In 1867 he was unanimously elected Mayor of the Borough, and on several occasions since would have been honored with the Mayoralty had he permitted his colleagues to carry out their wishes. In 1873 he was elected an Alderman of the Borough and he continued to hold that office up to the time of his death. He was for several years chairman of the Scavenging Committee. The deceased was also a Commissioner of Taxes. The funeral took place on Monday, the place of interment being the new cemetery where a new family vault was built.

THE WELSH SHIRES.

(Dec. 29, 1886.)

The three following letters have appeared in the *Athenæum*, in addition to the one which we have already published:—

Llanberis, December, 1886.

To those, if such there be, of your readers who may have innocently supposed the boundary between England and Wales—or ought we to say between "the Welsh shires" and the remainder of England?—to have been always the

same as at present, and to denote, now and always, the definite distinction of race, Mr Milman's letter will be interesting and instructive. His implied objection to any formal division between England and Wales in maps and books will, however, be at utter variance with the views and sentiments of Welshmen. The historical and ethnological value of the formal boundary is interesting chiefly to students of those sciences; but the effacement of the formal boundary, on the ground that it "hides a true nationality now belonging to history alone," is a notion tending, in my opinion, to arouse the strongest repugnance of the people of Wales, who still feel that they have a distinct nationality—not a nationality belonging to history alone, but a living and daily growing nationality. There are distinctions deeper and more permanent than those made by Acts of Parliament, and maps and books may usefully denote such distinctions. And surely no one will seriously maintain, having regard to the essential differences of race and history and language, that there is "no more reason for grouping certain shires as 'Wales' than for grouping other shires as East Anglia or Mercia." There are difficulties in the way of a readjustment of the boundary between England and Wales to a more accurate agreement with history and ethnology which it would hardly, perhaps, be worth while to surmount. But the present divisor, for want of a better, ought to be retained, as serving to symbolize rather than to mark accurately an historical and very vital distinction.

EDWARD FOULKES.

January 11, 1887.

Let me suggest to Mr Foulkes a better division than the twelve-shire line, namely, the old diocesan line as recognized at the date of the union, before the twelve-shire line was created. It is composed of the eastern boundaries of the dioceses of St. Asaph, St. David's and Llandaff, and is set out in the text and maps of "Valor Ecclesiasticus, temp. Henry VIII." vols. i. and iv., printed by the Record Commission in 1810 and 1821.

Every "county atlas" honours forty shires each with a large scale and a separate page, and dishonours twelve shires in crowding them together on a small scale on one or two pages. Welshmen may be satisfied with this arrangement, Englishmen are not. It is a result of the twelve-shire line.

HENRY SALISBURY MILMAN.

Llanberis, Jan. 15, 1887.

Allow me to thank Mr Milman for pointing out the diocesan boundary between England and Wales as a better line of division than the present twelve-shire line. The line he suggests would considerably increase the area of Wales; and should the idea of Home Rule, which he so deprecates, ever be realized, his suggestion may be turned to account.

Meanwhile, and à propos of what has been written in this correspondence, may I call the attention of Welsh publishers and of all interested in education in Wales to the need of providing elementary school-books, especially primers on history, giving adequate place to Welsh history, which is entirely ignored in the books published by English houses, now generally used? It is an anomalous state of things which prevails in elementary schools throughout Wales, in which the children are taught the stories of the Saxon, Danish, and Norman invaders of Britain, but are left in entire ignorance of the history of their own nation and race.

EDWARD FOULKES.

Feb. 3, 1887.

The letters upon the Welsh Shires, which you have copied into the *Advertiser*, coupled with the original one from Mr Salisbury Milman, have given me much pleasure, for

they open up a question which has been passed over by most writers, when treating of Wales as a distinct part of the United Kingdom. When I commenced my series of Border Counties Worthies in *Bye-Gones*, a good many years ago, this very point came up for discussion between Mr Askew Roberts and myself. He pointed out to me the old diocesan line alluded to by Mr Milman in his letter of the 11th of January of this year, and for a time this new difficulty perplexed me, for I had convinced myself by a process of reasoning (which has escaped my memory) that for my purposes at least, I must treat Cheshire, Shropshire, Herefordshire, and Monmouthshire—as they then stood—as the four border counties I had to deal with.

"There are difficulties in the way of a readjustment of the county boundaries," as Mr Foulkes remarks; but it is very desirable that some capable writer should try and show the lines of demarcation between England and Wales, as they existed at the time when Edward the First annexed Wales to England. I do not quite see why Englishmen are not satisfied with the arrangement (Vide Mr Milman), but I can see many reasons why Welshmen should seek to procure a more accurate description of ancient Wales, not for any party or sectarian use, but for historical and ethnological purposes. It is very certain that we are, once for all, made a part of English Britain, and that we cannot change our fate, even if we wish it. Mr Foulkes, therefore, arrives at a very practical conclusion when he ends his first letter in the manner he does; but in his second letter he throws out a suggestion of great value, and I hope you will allow me to add this note to your correspondence upon the Welsh Shires, as expressive of my hope that Welsh publishers will follow his very excellent advice.

E. G. SALISBURY.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

A Committee has been appointed to take steps with a view of establishing a Working Men's Club at Holywell, in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. Towards this object there is already in hand a sum of £277, left by the late Mr Peter Ellis Eyton, M.P.

A strong feeling exists in North Wales in favour of a distinctively Welsh celebration of the Jubilee of her Majesty's Accession, and the Council of the University College of North Wales have resolved to appeal to the friends of education in North Wales for the establishment of a Jubilee Scholarship Fund, out of which a system of Scholarships and Exhibitions may be permanently endowed, it being felt that a Scholarship Fund is the most suitable form which a special educational endowment could take in Wales.

COUNTY MEETING AT WELSHPOOL.

A meeting convened by the High Sheriff of Montgomeryshire, Mr P. A. Beck, of Trelydan Hall, was held in the Assembly Rooms, Welshpool, on Monday, to take steps with regard to the celebration in the county of the approaching Jubilee of the Queen. The attendance was not very large. The chair was taken by the High Sheriff, and he was supported by the Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Powis, Mr A. C. Humphreys-Owen of Glansevern, Mr C. Whitley Owen of Fronfrith, Mr T. W. Hare of Berthddu, and the under sheriff, Mr George D. Harrison. Amongst those present were:—Captain Mytton, Garth, Mr R. E. Jones, Cefn Bryntalch, Major Corbett Winder, Mr N. W. Fairles-Humphreys, Montgomery, Mr C. Phillippis-Wolley, Mr Morris C. Jones, Gungrog, Major Harrison, Caerhowel, Rev. R. M. White, Churchstoke, Mr H. Lloyd, Pentreheyn, Mr St. John Corbet, Mr T. R. Morris, Mayor of Welshpool, Mr J. Marshall Dugdale, Mr W. Forrester Addie of Powis Castle, Mr Richard Lloyd, Newtown, Mr W. Mickleburgh, Mont-

gomery, Mr E. R. James, Montgomery, Mr Bennett Rowlands, Newtown, Mr Wall, Welshpool, Mr S. Miller, the Court, Mr W. F. Thomas, Newtown, Mr Martin Woosnam, chairman of the Newtown Local Board, the Rev. D. P. Lewis, Llandrinio, the Rev. J. S. Lewis, of Guilsfield, the Rev. J. Sawyer, of Leighton, the Rev. S. Reed of Llanerfyl, Mr R. Hurst, Welshpool, Mr T. Withy, Welshpool, Mr W. Withy, Welshpool, the Rev. J. Dixon, Aberhafesp, Mr Thomas Jones, Welshpool, Mr Shuker, Churchoke, Mr C. S. Pryce, Montgomery, &c.

The HIGH SHERIFF, who was received with cheers, said in consequence of a requisition which had been addressed to him, he had called that meeting in order that they might take steps to celebrate the Jubilee of her Majesty's glorious reign, and he was quite sure that everyone in Montgomeryshire would be anxious to show their love and loyalty to the Queen by assisting to carry it out. It was unnecessary for him to go into particulars regarding the enormous progress which the nation at large had made during the last fifty years, or to enumerate her Majesty's great and many virtues as wife, mother, and sovereign. (Cheers.) He hoped the meeting would elect a Committee whose duty it would be to carry out any resolutions which might be passed, and he hoped they might be unanimous as to the form which the celebration of the Jubilee might take. (Cheers.) It appeared to him they had but one course to adopt, and that was to support the Imperial Institute—(cheers)—a project which originated with his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and was greatly approved of by her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen. He believed the Institute, if established on a sufficiently broad basis, would be a splendid means of acquainting our own people with the great advantages possessed by the colonies, and was calculated to draw closer the bonds of union between the colonies and the mother country. In England we were getting far too thick upon the ground, our population was increasing at the rate of something like three hundred thousand annually, and we must look to our colonies to relieve us of our surplus population. With that view, it was most essential that our own people should learn more of the climate and resources of those countries which were open to them for emigration. He would only add that he thought an address should be presented to her Majesty. He would read some letters which he had received from Mr David Davies, Mr Stuart Rendel M.P., and Mr Pryce Jones, and a telegram from Mr Hanbury Tracy, M.P. Mr David Davies wrote—

Dear Sir,—I shall not be able to attend the proposed meeting at Welshpool on the 7th, or I would second the resolution to be moved at the meeting in favour of the formation of the Imperial Institute.

The Hon. F. S. A. Hanbury Tracy telegraphed—

Cannot attend meeting to-day. I am strongly of opinion that while we may support the Institute, the greater portion of the subscriptions in honour of the Jubilee should be devoted to local interests in the county.

Mr Pryce Jones wrote from London :—

Dear Mr High Sheriff,—I am very sorry that I shall not be able to be present at your meeting on Monday, as, before I received your circular notice, I had made engagements which will detain me in town for some days.

I hope to hear, as it is convened to decide upon what the county will do to celebrate her Majesty's year of Jubilee, that friends of every political shade will sink party, and make a great effort to accomplish something worthy of our country.

It certainly is a platform on which all may meet and unite, to do her Majesty the honour she so much deserves.

Mr Stuart Rendel, M.P., wrote—

Dear Mr High Sheriff,—I regret to say that I cannot attend the meeting you have convened for Monday next. I could not

be so long away from London now that the Session has fairly begun. I am the more sorry because I should have wished to take the occasion for raising a question in relation to the Jubilee and the interest of Wales in it. While Scotland and Ireland have their great national order of Knighthood, Wales is without one. I would humbly and respectfully suggest, as one who, while entitled in some degree to speak, can yet have no personal interest, that the Jubilee year would furnish a fortunate opportunity for remedying this inequality. No people under her Majesty's wide rule are of purer and older nationality than the Welsh. No people are prouder or more devoted to their ancient traditions and usages. To mark their proverbial attachment at once to their sovereign and to their history by the institution of an order of St. David would, I submit, worthily distinguish this truly "golden wedding" between her gracious Majesty and her loyal Welsh people.

The High Sheriff added that he had received letters of apology from Mr C. W. Williams Wynn, who wrote to say he did not approve of the Imperial Institute, Mr Richard Woosnam, Capt. Severne, Mr Richard Jones, Machynlleth, Mr Howell, and Sir W. Williams Wynn, Bt.

The Earl of Powis was received with cheers on rising to move the first resolution :—"That this meeting, desiring to express its grateful recognition of the blessings which have been afforded to this country during her Majesty's reign, resolves that a memorial worthy to record the completion of 50 years of that reign should be erected by means of the voluntary contributions of the Queen's subjects throughout her dominions." He said—The event of a sovereign having reigned for fifty years is one that does not often occur. Her Majesty is the fourth sovereign who has accomplished fifty years of a reign in England. Two of those occasions occurred when the throne was held by the great family of the Plantagenets, in the persons of Edward III., in whose time the foundations of our Parliamentary constitution were practically laid, and of his great grandson, Henry III., under whom the British archers on the plains of France distinguished themselves at Cressy and at Poitiers, and laid the foundations of the fame of the British army, which the thin line of the British infantry has sustained on many a field, both on the continent of Europe and in the East, an army of whom a distinguished French marshal said the British infantry was the best in the world, but that fortunately for the rest of the world there was very little of it. (Laughter.) The present Jubilee occurs in the second generation. Her Majesty is the grand-daughter of George III., whose Jubilee was celebrated by the past generation at the beginning of the present century, but when I say the past generation I am reminded there are still some who are alive who witnessed the previous rejoicings, and among them I may mention a very distinguished public servant, an old Speaker of the House of Commons, Lord Eversley, who is still in full vigour of mind, and able to speak of the feelings and demonstrations which attended the Jubilee of George III. The High Sheriff has spoken of the feelings with which all her Majesty's subjects regard her. In all matters of private life her Majesty has set an example to all her subjects. Under her reign at home the general prosperity has advanced among all classes of the people, the condition of the poor has been ameliorated, social questions receive greater attention, and among all religious bodies in the last fifty years greater earnestness, and greater expansion has prevailed. A Parliamentary return, moved for some years ago by Sir John Pakington, afterwards Lord Hampton, showed that in the cathedrals and churches the amount which had been spent in the previous twenty years—in restoring fabrics, some of which go back for many centuries—amounted to some millions. These are fabrics, many of them, dating from the earliest ages. I was present some years ago at

the thousandth anniversary of the first foundation of what is now the cathedral church of Ely; before the heptarchy had been consolidated into one kingdom that was a foundation, and the edifice is older, we may say, than the monarchy of England itself. In the colonies a great advance has taken place. Australia, which at the last jubilee was little more than a place for the maintenance of our convicts, has expanded into a number of vigorous and important colonies. Canada, which some hundred years ago was considered almost as a snow-bound country, scarcely fit for human habitation, has become a great dominion, and during the last twelve months we have seen a great railway spanning that continent from east to west, and affording another means of communication with our distant colonies in the southern hemisphere. In these circumstances it is not wonderful that a general desire should be felt that this event should be celebrated nationally as well as locally; that we who live in the mother country, in Great Britain and Ireland, should think also of that greater England beyond the seas, of those great expanses of territory in America, in Asia, and in the southern part of Africa, where the British language is spoken and the British flag flies. (Cheers.) We know if we look to our commercial returns that, to use a mercantile phrase, commerce follows the flag, and our colonies take a great deal more of our manufactures and produce in proportion to their population than foreign countries do, and therefore the expansion of our colonies tends to prosperity at home. I need not mention how much, now that the population is rapidly increasing, emigration to territories that are under the British Crown diminishes the feelings of isolation and separation amongst those who have to seek their livelihood in other regions and in another hemisphere. Four or five years ago Sir Hussey Vivian, the representative of one of our great industrial centres in South Wales, went to California; he was received with open arms by his brother Welshmen, who welcomed him with an address, and presented him with a gold headed cane, which showed that they did not think that this emigration was a thing to be deplored as a national grievance, as a national loss, as our friends over the water in Ireland, with their not uncommon perversity, desire to represent it, but that it was the natural result and proof of national progress and expansion. (Cheers.) From the earliest days the first mark of increasing civilisation has been the founding of colonies. Greece, with its small population, with its handful of States, some of them not bigger than English counties, early led the van, and Horace refers in poetic words to the address with which Teucer, one of the earliest colonizers, encouraged the small fleet which was departing with him to seek their fortunes in what then was a distant land, though it was only from the continent of Greece to the continent of Asia Minor that they emigrated. We may smile at that, with our ocean steamers which can go twenty knots an hour, but in those days navigation was in its infancy, boats were mere cockleshells, they had no steam, they had not even the mariner's compass. He urged his comrades to go forward, saying the gods would be propitious to their undertaking, and they would raise in a new land a new Salamis, which should vie with and eclipse the parent State. I need not remind you that these Greek colonies in Asia were in those days a very important element in civilization, or that the great temple of Diana of the Ephesians was considered one of the great wonders of the world. In these circumstances, looking to the extended empire which is under the sway of the Sovereign of the United Kingdom, it is not wonderful that the Prince of Wales should have initiated a movement to establish a Colonial and Imperial Institute, which shall be a common

bond of union to the English-speaking race in whatever quarter of the globe they are situated. This will be appreciated here in the Principality, I am sure, and we shall all be desirous of following the lead of our national prince. This general undertaking, this national institution, will not interfere with those local celebrations which will take place in all the principal towns of the country. Local rejoicings contributing to the comfort and the enjoyment of the poor—(cheers)—are matters which will not be neglected by each individual neighbourhood, and which will be much better left in the hands of each neighbourhood, than attempted by the county. It is obvious that to apportion a general subscription among every parish or borough in the county would tend to needless heartburnings, and be practically impossible. Therefore I will ask you to agree to this resolution, and I hope the county will take up the celebration of this jubilee as a part of the body politic of the English nation, and that while we do not neglect to minister to the comfort of our poorer neighbours, and so enable them to take part in the rejoicings, we shall contribute also to the expression of the national feeling. (Cheers.)

Mr HUMPHREYS-OWEN was received with cheers on rising to second the motion. He said—I consider it a very great honour, a great privilege on this national occasion, to be called on to second the first resolution. Lord Powis has pointed out the great historical interest and the great personal interest which the celebration of the jubilee has for us all, and for ourselves the present jubilee is one of special interest in consequence of the very remarkable progress the nation has made during the fifty years which have seen her Majesty on the throne. There are many people who may say that the progress of the nation is independent of the character of the sovereign. I entirely differ from that. Men may be governed by considerations of self-interest, but they are also governed by considerations of sentiment and feeling, and the consequence of having in a conspicuous position at the head of the nation, as the embodiment of the national unity, a person who is great in every respect, who is dignified as Queen who is revered as woman, cannot but have had the greatest influence upon the course which the national life must take. (Cheers.) And while saying this I do not think we ought to forget the great impulse to all that is good which was given during the first twenty years of her Majesty's reign by the lamented Prince Consort. The industrial progress of the nation which has been so conspicuous during the past fifty years was greatly owing to him. I think it will interest you to give very shortly a few figures which point out in detail how great this progress has been. When the Queen came to the throne our population was little more than half what it is. To-day the population is something like thirty-six millions; at that time it was somewhere about twenty, and if we exclude the population of Ireland, which we may well do, the population of Great Britain itself was little more than sixteen millions, while the present population is something like thirty. Yet with this great increase in population compare the statistics which show the comfort and the morality of the people. Take first the number of commitments for crime; when the Queen came to the throne the commitments for trial for crimes were 54,000; in 1882, the latest to which I have had access, that number had sunk to 22,000. (Cheers.) A very few years after the Queen came to the throne our pauper population was sixteen hundred thousand; the pauper population to-day, with this great increase of population, has sunk to little under one million. (Cheers.) On the other hand, and, as accompanying

that great decrease, we have an increase in savings of something like ten-fold. The number of depositors in Savings Banks has risen from I think 400,000 up to four millions—(cheers);—the amount they deposited has increased from thirteen millions up to eighty millions—(cheers)—while as showing that this is the wealth of the poorer classes the share of each depositor has fallen from something like £30 to £19. The belief therefore that while the rich are growing richer the poor are growing poorer is entirely groundless. And to this great increase in the wealth of the poorer classes must be added the wealth of the co-operative stores and of the friendly societies which in themselves amount to many many millions. The total result of all these figures is this, that when the Queen came to the throne the national income was reckoned at five hundred and fifteen millions, while it is estimated to-day by the highest statistical authorities at twelve hundred millions, so that as the population has doubled, their wealth has doubled with it. (Cheers.) Let me give a few more details as to the increase of the material comfort of the people. Take the humble articles of tea, sugar, currants, and raisins. Our fathers at the accession of the Queen consumed less than a pound and a quarter of tea per head, to-day we consume four and a half pounds, or over; they consumed about fifteen pounds of sugar, to-day we consume about sixty pounds per head; and, for our children's sakes, while our fathers consumed of currants and raisins a pound and a half per head we consume over four and a quarter pounds. It is for you to say for yourselves, who know the large part which these simple luxuries play in the domestic circle, what an amount of daily well-being these figures represent. But I have not yet done; there is one most important head of enjoyment, and that is the duration of life. The sanitary improvements which have been the result of the growth of local taxation, which have been great during the last fifty years, have added to the average life of every man two years, and to that of every woman three and a half years. That does not seem much looking at it generally but let each one ask himself how he would feel if he were told he was sentenced to die next Monday, and that when Monday came he was told he was reprieved to that day two years. And that growth in the duration of life must necessarily be accompanied by great diminution in suffering and sickness which necessarily have their result in increased mortality. I consider it is largely to the personal influence of the Prince Consort that we owe these gratifying results. (Cheers.) Now there comes the further question how is this Jubilee to be celebrated? Here I am told that I have the happiness of agreeing with a political opponent, my friend Mr. Wynn. He has intimated some amount of distrust and doubt as to the Imperial Institute. I have no doubt that the Imperial Institute may be of some advantage in promoting unity between us and our colonies. The fact of its being proposed and supported must necessarily tend in that direction. At the same time when we are celebrating an event like this it is natural for us to wish to celebrate it in a way which, while it shall be national, shall bring home its benefits a little more to each one of us. I own, therefore, that while I should not object, while in fact I would gladly see some of our contributors aiding the work which the Prince of Wales has undertaken, I hope we may see, as Lord Powis has said, a very substantial part of what we are able to give applied to subjects which come nearer home. Let me be quite clear on this point. There can be no question of singularity or disloyalty involved here. Already, throughout the country, very many public bodies have decided to spend the whole of the money they raise for the celebration of the Jubilee

on local objects. I may mention, for instance, a large meeting in the county of Lincoln; and Canterbury, Keswick, Maidstone, and various towns—and I believe counties also—have taken that course. And so for ourselves I think there are many objects which may well demand our sympathies. I place prominently a day of bright enjoyment for our poorer fellow countrymen. (Cheers.) I think it would be very fit indeed that we should have a day of festivity all through the county, each in our own neighbourhoods, to instil the memory of the Jubilee in the minds of the very youngest. It is a very interesting thing to know there are old men amongst us who can remember the last Jubilee but it is scarcely possible that even the youngest child here will see another Jubilee. There is another object I have very much at heart, and that is the two national colleges at Aberystwyth and Bangor. I do not think we can possibly celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in a better manner than by aiding in the provision of rising men who are well qualified to serve her Majesty in the various callings of the State. The work of these two colleges is of the most successful and gratifying character. Lord Powis will confirm me as to Bangor, which owes so much to his wise and judicious presidency. (Cheers.) We have already there something like a hundred and forty students, and we have what is particularly interesting in this county, a most successful agricultural department. At Aberystwyth we have an even larger number of students than at Bangor, and we have drawn a very considerable number of them from this county. I hope to see the time when the numbers at Bangor and Aberystwyth will be still larger, and I hope a portion of the funds raised in this county may be applied to celebrate this great event by the foundation of a Jubilee scholarship or scholarships at each of these two colleges. There remains yet another alternative. It certainly is not an object to which I think the county funds can be well applied, and for this reason: we are peculiarly situated in having so many county towns; we have practically four, and there are two other towns which may claim an equality with the other four, while in other counties, such as Shropshire, Worcestershire, and Gloucestershire, they have towns in which they might very well erect a county monument. In Montgomeryshire we can necessarily endeavour to do nothing of the kind. Our celebration therefore must be, in the first place, the national celebration, the Imperial Institute; and in the next place the local celebration, the day of enjoyment for the poor and the old; and last, though by no means least, some other object—and I warmly urge upon you that that shall be the object I have already mentioned, that of scholarships at Bangor and Aberystwyth. (Cheers.)

The motion was unanimously adopted.

Capt. MYTTON, in moving "That this meeting is of opinion that an Imperial Institute constituted in accordance with the plan framed under the directions of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will form the best means of carrying out the preceding resolution," expressed his entire approval of the proposed memorial, and referred to the great lessons to be learnt from the Indian and Colonial Exhibition of last year. In the proposed Institute they would have these advantages in a permanent form, and intending emigrants would always be able to make themselves acquainted with the conditions of the colonies to which they proposed to emigrate. They might be asked to contribute to the celebration of the Jubilee in other forms, but at any rate he hoped the county of Montgomery would contribute its quota towards the Imperial Institute. (Cheers.)

Mr FAIRLES-HUMPHREYS, who was received with cheers, seconded the motion. The resolution was a

matter of business, and it was one which they could confidently support. He had had the pleasure of hearing the Prince of Wales speak on the subject; before hearing him he had doubted the practicability of the scheme, but after hearing the Prince, Lord Granville, Lord Spencer, Professor Huxley, and many more eminently practical men, he had no longer any doubt. The idea was to make the Institute a centre of knowledge, where capitalists in this country could get official and reliable information, and where also intending emigrants might get independent and trustworthy information as to the fields of emigration they proposed to go to. (Cheers.)

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

On the motion of Mr R. E. JONES, seconded by Mr S. MILLER, it was resolved:—"That this meeting pledges itself to take all practical steps to assist in the formation of the Imperial Institute."

On the motion of Major HARRISON, seconded by Mr SHUKER, it was resolved "That a committee be formed, consisting of the Lord Lieutenant, the present and incoming High Sheriffs, the Mayors, the county and borough members of Parliament, the Deputy-Chairman of Quarter Sessions, the colonels of militia and yeomanry, the chairmen and vice-chairmen of Unions, Highway Boards, and Local Boards, with power to add to their number; that lists be opened at all the banks in the county on behalf of the Queen's Jubilee Fund; and that Mr G. D. Harrison be asked to act as honorary secretary."

The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the High Sheriff, proposed by Lord POWIS, and seconded by Mr C. WHITLEY OWEN.

WOMEN'S COUNTY MEETING AT WELSHPOOL.

At a meeting called by Mrs P. A. Beck, the wife of the High Sheriff, at the request of the Lord-Lieutenant, and held in the Town Hall, Welshpool, on Monday, Feb. 7, Mrs P. A. Beck being in the chair, it was proposed by Lady Annora Wynn, and seconded by the Honble. Mrs. F. HANBURY TRACY, that Mrs P. A. Beck be elected president of the General Committee for the county.—It was proposed by Mrs Mytton, and seconded by Mrs Humphreys-Owen, that Mrs Harrison of Caerhowel be elected hon. secretary.—It was proposed by Mrs Corbett Winder, and seconded by Mrs Harrison, that Mr Matthew Powell be elected treasurer, and that subscriptions be paid to him by the treasurers of districts at Lloyd's, Barnett's, and Bosanquet's Bank, Welshpool.

All these necessary officials were duly elected, and Mrs P. A. BECK proceeded to explain in what manner she wished the county to be worked, and said:—"Ladies,—As you are all aware, no doubt, we are met here to-day to testify our love to our good Queen by appointing a general committee from among the women resident in Montgomeryshire who will be ready, and happy too, to join heartily in the necessary arrangements for carrying out the work of collecting sums varying from one penny to one pound from women and little girls in every corner of the county, to be sent up to the Queen as a Jubilee Offering in commemoration of the fiftieth year of her reign. As you all know, it is always a difficult matter when a large number of people are interested in one project, to steer clear of offence in every detail of arrangement, but I hope in this Women's Jubilee celebration every one will pull together, and determine to work with a will, and for love of their Queen, and let all minor feelings sink in one wish to emulate each other only in working harder, and sparing no pains to carry out a work of love with cheerfulness and kindly unity of purpose. If you will allow me, I will now tell you how I think you can best do this, namely, by electing a General

Committee to consist of the wife of the present and the sisters of the incoming High Sheriffs; the wives of resident county magistrates, or the sister or daughter if filling the position of mistress of the house; ladies of property residing upon their own estates; the wives of the Mayors of the boroughs, and Lady Sudeley, Lady Williams Wynn, the Dowager Lady Williams Wynn, Mrs Stuart Rendel, and Mrs Price of Marrington. Dividing the county into six sections, taking the Parliamentary borough towns as the centres, the line of demarcation to be drawn at the municipal boundary for Montgomery, Welshpool, Llanidloes, and Llanfyllin, and at the Parliamentary boundary for Newtown and Machynlleth. Each lady on the General Committee would have a given number of parishes in her own section under her charge, so as to arrange for appointing a sub-committee in each, the sub-committees to consist of the wives of the clergymen, the wives of the ministers of all denominations, the wives of the principal farmers, tradesmen, and of the schoolmistress; each member of a sub-committee to be allowed to choose her own collectors; and the subscription to be closed on April 30. The list of the General Committee was then read, and they were all duly elected, subject to their consent, and to ascertain this Mrs Harrison was requested to write to all those who were not present.

A vote of thanks was given to Mrs Beck for taking the chair, on the motion of Lady ANNORA WYNN, seconded by the Hon. Mrs F. HANBURY TRACY, and the meeting separated.

RUYTON-XI-TOWNS.

At the usual monthly meeting of the Loyal "Admiral Benbow" Lodge, M.U., it was proposed and carried unanimously that the anniversary should be held on the day of the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, and to make the display worthy of the occasion they intend purchasing a handsome Jubilee banner. A general meeting of the members will be held in March to make the necessary arrangements.

WREXHAM.

Yesterday (Tuesday) evening a meeting of the inhabitants of Wrexham was held in the Borough Justices' Court at the Guildhall for the purpose of considering the best mode of celebrating the Queen's Jubilee. His Worship the Mayor, Mr Councillor J. Prichard, presided, and there was a fairly large attendance. The Mayor having explained the object of the meeting, Mr Alderman John Jones moved the following resolution, viz., "That the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee should embrace at least the following subjects:—1. A contribution to the Imperial Institute; 2. A contribution on the part of the ladies of Wrexham to the personal testimonial to the Queen; 3. General local rejoicings, embracing (a), an entertainment to the school children; (b), an entertainment to the aged poor; (c), the ringing of the bells; (d), if possible a general procession; (e), an invitation of the members of the Friendly Societies, and other local bodies, to join in the procession; (f), the decoration of the town; and that the following gentlemen form a General Committee to carry out this resolution:—The Mayor and Town Council, Ex-Mayors and Borough Magistrates, and others who may be appointed by the meeting, with a recommendation of the General Committee to tell off an Imperial Institute Committee."—This was seconded by Mr Alderman W. E. Samuel, and carried unanimously.—Mr Evan Morris, on behalf of the National Eisteddfod Committee, proposed "That in the opinion of this meeting it is most desirable that a large Public Assembly Hall should be erected to meet a pressing want in the town, and be a permanent and useful memorial of the Jubilee of her Majesty's reign."

This was seconded by Mr J. M. Jones, and carried.—Mr Y. Strachan next moved "That a meeting of ladies, resident in Wrexham, be convened to meet Miss Prichard, as Mayoress, at the Guild Hall, to make the necessary arrangements for a ladies' committee to obtain local subscriptions towards the Women's Jubilee Offering."—Mr Bernard Lewis seconded this, which was also agreed to.—Mr Paddon moved that the Jubilee be celebrated by the establishment of a permanent recreation ground for the children of Wrexham.—This was seconded by Mr J. S. Rawlins, and spoken to by several other gentlemen.

FEBRUARY 16, 1887.

NOTES.

WHITTINGTON PARISH REGISTERS.—The following are extracts from the registers of Whittington, published in a history of the village by Wm. Davies, L.M.W.S., Head Master of Carnarvon School. The book, which was printed by E. Edwards at Oswestry, bears no date:—

March 13th, 1766 died
THOMAS EVANS
Parish Clarke, aged 72.
Old Steruhold's lines, or Vicar of Bray,
Which he turn'd best 'twas hard to say.

At the time referred to part of the parish clerk's work was to turn a barrel organ which stood in the gallery of the church.

SAMUEL PEATE
of Whittington Castle, died,
aged 84

Here lies Governor Peate
Whom no man did hate,
At the age of four score,
And four years more,
He pretended to wrestle
With Death for his Castle;
But was soon out of breath
And surrender'd to Death,
Who away did him take,
At the eve of our wake,
One morn about seven
To keep wake in heaven.

ANDREW WILLIAMS
was
Born A.D 1692, and died April 18, 1776,
Aged 84.

Of which time he lived under The Aston Family as Decoyman 60 years.

Here lies the Decoyman who liv'd like an otter,
Dividing his time betwixt land and water!
His hide he oft soak'd in the waters of Perry,
Whilst Aston old beer his spirits kept cheery;
Amphibious his trim, Death was puzzled they say,
How to dust to reduce such well moisten'd clay.
So Death turn'd Decoyman and decoy'd him to land,
Where he fix'd his abode till quite dried to the hand;
He then found him fitting for crumbling to dust,
And here he lies mouldering as you and I must.

The Perry, it will be remembered, is a river running near Whittington.

1783.

A severe winter,—the frost set in the day before Christmas Day, and continued to introduce the new year.

And I may here add, as there is a vacancy, that the frost continued till March, 1784.

I sore forbode these frosty times
Will nip my nob; and then my rhymes
In puff complete, in richness big,
And full and flowery as my wig,
Will future bards and priests explore,
'Till Taste and Talent are no more.
While dull, tho' disembodied I
Jump up a Gnome 'twixt earth and sky;
Perch on the pen of rhyming elf,
And squat a squabby rhyme myself.
A brat I boast, hight Pudding Billy,
Whom tho' the witless world calls silly,
And tho' but lame in hic bæc hoc
Is a right chip of the old block.

W. ROBERTS, rector.

N.B.—Mr Roberts died a few months after writing this epitaph on himself.

H.S.

QUERIES.

COCKSHUTT.—What is the meaning of this place-name—that of a village near Ellesmere. It is also found, variously spelt, in different parts of Montgomeryshire. Is it of Welsh derivation? T.H.J.

FOOTBALL ON SHROVE TUESDAY.—In the current number of the *Folk-Lore Journal*, Mr. G. L. Gomme asks for notices of Games of Football played on Shrove Tuesday between married and unmarried, or some other divisions of the people. Referring back to the *Antiquary* for December, 1885, a quotation will be found from *Manners and Customs of Ancient Greece*, published in 1842, where it is stated that "Football may still on Shrove Tuesday be witnessed in certain towns of South Wales," and that the combatants regale themselves with "pancakes which the women sell in baskets at the corner of every street." Is there any place where the custom is still kept up? Ed.

REPLIES.

OLD CUSTOM AT OSWESTRY (Feb. 2, 1887). The custom of taking a board plastered with clay and lighted with candles is one of very recent date. The writer remembers the colliers of the Drill coming to her house about sixteen years ago. On arriving, the board was placed on the ground, and the miners, kneeling around it, sang a carol. This custom is supposed to symbolize the Star of the East. Within the last two years the same custom prevailed in the parish of St. Martins. F.E.P.

"T.A.D.'s" query carries me back to some of my earliest years, when he asks whether any of your readers can tell the origin of the custom observed by the colliers at the Drill some fifty years ago. I will endeavour to explain (if not the origin) the way in which I understood the observance myself. It was a custom chiefly confined to the collier lads of that day, as it was seldom that any of older growth took part with them. To carry out this custom they had a rough construction made of boards, fastened together, and as a rule circular in form, some three feet in diameter. This was nailed on two bearers, something resembling a hand barrow, and on it were placed small ridges of clay, something after the manner of a coach wheel, in which were fixed some sixty or

seventy small candles, and in the centre a large candle, which was termed the king of the small ones. Thus they were provided with what they designated a Star (when lighted), representing, as they thought, the Star which appeared to the Wise Men in the East, announcing the birth of our Saviour. Hence it was a custom only observed on Christmas Eve, and was an occasion for the lads to go round the town and neighbourhood soliciting Christmas boxes. J.D.

OLD RHYME (Dec. 8 and 22, 1886).—The most general rendering of the couplet to which OMEGA refers at the former reference is

Turkies, carps, hops, and beer,
Came into England all in one year.

In "Baker's Chronicles" (1641) the lines are thus given:—

Turkies, carps, hoppers, picarell (pike), and beere,
Came into England all in one year.

There are still two other versions:—

Turkeys, carps, hops, pickles (*sic*), and beer,
Came all into England in one year.

And

Hops, reformation, bays, and beer,
Came into England all in one year.

Now let me say that I agree with "W.O." at the latter reference that these rhymes are incorrect in fact. First of all, taking turkeys, Beckmann in his "History of Inventions," &c. (1846), vol. 1, p. 493, says:—

That these fowls were not known in England in the beginning of the sixteenth century is very probable; as they are not mentioned in the particular description of a grand entertainment given by Archbishop Nevil; nor in the regulations made by Henry VIII. respecting his household, in which all fowls used in the royal kitchen are named. They were, however, introduced into that country about the above period; some say in the year 1524; others in 1530; and some in 1532.

As to the date of the introduction of the carp, I will again quote Beckmann, this time vol. 2, p. 53:—

It appears that there were no carp in England in the eleventh century, at least they do not occur in the Anglo-Saxon Dictionary of Ælfric, who in 1051 died Archbishop of York. We are assured likewise that they were first brought into the kingdom in the fifth year of the reign of Henry VIII., or in 1514, by Leonard Mascall of Plumsted in Sussex. What we read in the Linnæan System that these fish were first brought to England about the year 1600 is certainly erroneous.

That carp were to be found in England before turkeys were introduced is, as "W.O." remarks, proved by the fact that the fish is mentioned in Dame Juliana Berners' work on Angling, which was published at St. Albans (hence called the Book of St. Albans) in 1486 (not 1496). She thus writes of the carp:—

That it is a deyntous fyssh, but there ben but few in Englonde. And therefore I wryte the lesse of hym. He is an euyl fyssh to take. For he is so stronge enarmyd in the mouthe that there maye noo weke harnays hold him.

It is a matter of uncertainty as to the exact date when hops were introduced into this country. Beckmann (Vol. 2, p. 384) says—

Many English historians assert that the use of hops was first made known in England by some people from Artois in the reign of Henry VIII., or about the year 1524.

It is on record that Henry forbade brewers to put hops and sulphur into ale in 1530, but the first mention of hops in English laws is in 1552 (Edward VI.), when certain privileges were granted to hop-grounds. The discrepancy in the dates becomes still more apparent on reference to Wynkyn de Worde's "Book of Kervyn," which was published in 1508 (Henry VII.) Here we are told to "Splat that Pyke," but no mention is made either of the turkey or the carp. In "A Compendious History of England from the Invasion of the Romans" (1789), the author, after quoting the rhyme, says that before the time of Henry VIII., "the English drank no other malt-liquor than ale, into which was put ground-ivy instead of hops." G.H.B.

Cardiff.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Rev. Edward Roberts, vicar of Llangystenyn, near Conway, died on Saturday.

The death is announced of the Rev. David Davies, of Penrhyndeudraeth, late of Barmouth. He was about 70 years of age, and was a popular preacher.

By an Order in Council, recently issued, the Deaneries of Llangollen and Edeyrnion, of which the Rev. Wynne Jones (vicar of Chirk) and Canon Richardson (vicar of Corwen), are respectively rural deans, have been taken from the Archdeaconry of St. Asaph, and added to the Archdeaconry of Montgomery.

Morien, in his interesting 'Welsh Notes,' in the *Weekly Mail*, says:—'I was much gratified by the receipt of a letter from Mr Gladstone, from Cambridge, in which he asked me for information with reference to the old Bardism of the Cymry. He is now writing a book on the pagan religion of the old philosophers of Greece, and he has learnt that there is a great similarity between the old religion of our ancestors and that of the Greeks. He was desirous to know something about the 'bardic trinity'—Plenydd, Alawn, and Gwron—inasmuch as they resembled the old trinity of Greece, namely, Zeus, Poseidon, and Dis. Well, be it known to the bards, from Caergybi (Holyhead), to Caerdydd (Cardiff), that I have replied, and have unfolded before him the ancient mysteries of our fathers. As did Nehemiah of old unto Jerusalem, I restored Bryn Gwyddon and Côr Gawr (Avebury and Stonehenge), and I did what Nehemiah did not,—that is, I replaced Plenydd, Alawn, and Gwron, and with them, Calan, Morwen, and Blodwen, in their ancient seats.

Addfryn gaer sydd ar lawr gweilgi :
Bydd lawen yn Nghalan ei Rhi.
Amser a wna fawr fawr wrhydi.

This is one of the old stanzas used by the Welsh tribes when marching towards the great Sanctuary of Britain. It compares the island to a cover on the ocean or sea. 'Calan ei Rhi' means the beginning of a new year, which is God's gift. Plenydd, Alawn, and Gwron, were names which denoted the three chief attributes of the Creator, and they are even to this day represented at every Gorsedd by the three most highly gifted and esteemed bards.

Mr Redway, a well-known London collector, has in his latest Catalogue a work on 'Farriery,' which should tempt Border Counties Sporting Bibliographers. It is a quarto book, bound in calf, written by W. Griffiths, and published at Wrexham a little more than a hundred years ago, viz., in 1784. The author was a groom at Wynnstay,

and the names of his 400 subscribers are printed in the book, which also has an interesting frontispiece by Bunbury.

The last sheets of the Welsh Translations of the Alcestis, which is being printed at the expense of the Marquis of Bute, are, we are informed, now going through the press. The work will be published in a very handsome quarto edition, with a Welsh introductory Preface on the Greek author and his work by Professor T. F. Roberts of Cardiff. With characteristic generosity the Marquis of Bute has undertaken to present a copy of the work to each member of the National Eisteddfod Association, of which Association he succeeded the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynn as president.

The usual monthly meeting of the Council of the Cymmrodorion Society was held on Thursday, the President, Mr Stephen Evans, in the chair. Amongst the new members added to the Society we may mention the Rev Owen Evans, Professor of Welsh at St. David's College, Lampeter. The Secretary, Mr C. W. Jones, read a very interesting letter from Professor Löth, of the University of Rennes, Brittany. The learned Professor, who wrote in excellent Welsh, expressed a strong desire for closer union, especially in literary matters, between the Bretons and their nearest relations, the Welsh people. A communication was read from Mr E. G. B. Phillimore, the editor of the Society's Transactions, who has for some time been suffering from ill-health. The Council expressed its sympathy with Mr Phillimore under the trying circumstances in which he is placed, which has amongst other effects that of delaying the appearance of a number of *Y Cymmrodor*, which is about half way through the press.

The Wilmingtonian (Delaware) says Mr Robert Shaw, the Wilmington artist, who has been studying for the last twenty months in North Wales and the contiguous English counties, has made some sketches illustrating the life of Old Parr, including the cottage at Glyn, where he lived. Mr Shaw tells the following legend about an old tree which is still seen in front of the doorway:—King Charles I., who had heard of the wonderful old man, being in the neighbourhood on one occasion, sent his servants to bring Parr to his presence. The King's followers, entering the cottage, found an extremely ancient individual seated at the fireside. They immediately summoned him to come with them to his Majesty. 'Oh,' said the old man, 'I think you want my father—you'll find him up in the big oak outside there, trimming it.' This turned out to be the case, to the evident confusion of the king's retinue. There was Old Parr himself, the very, very old man, up in the big oak, a-straddle of one of its stout limbs, in his hands a heavy trimming knife, which he vigorously handled, cutting away useless limbs, making them fly to the ground with wonderful celerity.—Mr Shaw is a nephew to Police-Sergeant Poole of Welshpool.

An unknown correspondent in Australia has kindly sent us the *Brisbane Courier* with an account of the third annual Eisteddfod at Gympie, Queensland, in November last. The Eisteddfod proceedings were held in the Theatre Royal, in the presence of large audiences, and consisted for the most part of literary and musical contests. The Premier (Sir S. W. Griffith, a Welshman) was escorted to the building by the local troops, who received him drawn up in parade order and with a general salute. Sir S. W. Griffith rode a handsome black charger, and Mr Mellor, M.L.A., was mounted on a brown cob. The other visitors were on foot. The building was well filled, and the visitors were received at the entrance by Mr W. Smyth, M.L.A., for the district,

the chairman for the evening. The party having proceeded to the platform, an address was presented to the Premier from the Welsh inhabitants of Gympie. The address acknowledged the courtesy and kindness shown by Sir S. W. Griffith in sparing from his many important public duties sufficient time to signify his interest in the national institution. Although the Eisteddfod was a tree whose roots were embedded in the soil of the most remote antiquity, they hoped that their humble endeavours to transplant and naturalise it in this southern land might be crowned with success, and that his fostering hand and genial patronage might prove eminently serviceable in assisting to acclimatise it. The address concluded with the expression of a hope that he might live long to reflect renewed honour on the land of their forefathers. The Premier briefly returned thanks, and declared the Eisteddfod open.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

At a Jubilee committee, held at Llandudno, Lord Mostyn announced his intention of presenting to the town, as a Jubilee gift, the Happy Valley.

MERIONETHSHIRE.

Mr. Henry Robertson, of Pale, in forwarding a cheque for £100 to Mr. Morris Jones, of Dolgelley, his annual subscription to the fund for the Merionethshire scholarships, proposes the foundation for Merionethshire of Victorian scholarships in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee.

DENBIGHSHIRE.

At the annual meeting of the Denbighshire Infirmary, the committee thanked Dr. Turnour for the handsome donation of £1,050, with which he had endowed three free "Turnour" beds. The friends of the Charity have been urged to commemorate the Jubilee by founding similar beds. At a public meeting held at Denbigh to decide in what manner to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, it was resolved to extend the burial ground at Whitechurch. One estimate of the cost is £4,000.

THE OSWESTRY MEMORIAL.

A meeting of the General Committee recently appointed for the purpose of undertaking the direction of the celebration in Oswestry of the Jubilee of the Queen's accession to the throne was held in the Guildhall on Saturday afternoon. The Mayor (W. H. Lacon, Esq.), presided, and there were forty or fifty members of the Committee present.

Mr GEORGE OWEN said he had a proposal to lay before the meeting, but as the details would not be decided that day he would not go into them. The proposal was one which he felt sure would commend itself to the wishes and the good feeling of every townsman of Oswestry, who wished to see not only themselves fed and taken care of, but a permanent and lasting memorial for those who came after them. The scheme had already been discussed in two most excellent letters in the *Oswestry Advertiser* of the past two weeks, and he would therefore simply lay his proposal before them.—'That this committee, believing the establishment of a free reading room, library, and museum, with provision of schools for science and art, combined with technical education, will best promote the welfare of the town, and at the same time assist in an educational movement which is essential to the continued prosperity of the kingdom, considers it the best and most appropriate way of celebrating the Jubilee of her most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria; that it be left to a sub-committee to look out for the most suitable site for the erection of a free library and museum.' (Cheers.)

Dr. BLAIKIE said he presumed it was proposed to build for the purpose.

Mr G. OWEN said it would depend upon the funds whether they should erect a building specially, or acquire the building they had amongst them (the Public Hall), or rent one.

The MAYOR said he should regard such an institution as being equal with the Imperial Institute in London.

Mr J. CONACHER, in seconding the motion, said if the last fifty years were remarkable for the progress which our country had made, they were also remarkable for the progress which other countries, which were at one time far behind us in manufactures and commerce, had made. Those countries in fact had gained upon us. A very large number of the people of this country, he thought, knew very little of those people—in fact we only learnt about them when the pressure of their competition came upon us. Most of them probably had paid some attention to the report of the Commission on the Depression of Trade. That Commission represented all schools of politics, and all theories of political economy, and the members were unanimous in the conclusion that a great deal of the depression which we had suffered was due to the want of technical education on the part of our men. He had cut out of that report—the majority report—two paragraphs, in one of which was included amongst the chief causes of depression, the want of technical education, and in the other, particular emphasis was laid upon the superior technical education of the workmen of foreign countries. It was true perhaps that they could not do much in Oswestry, but the future of the commerce of this country depended a great deal upon our power to cope with the growing knowledge and skill of other countries. Some such scheme as Mr Owen's he hoped they would be able to elaborate, and he would suggest that it should be called the Victoria Institute and Free Library. It was a scheme which he thought was quite within their powers, and it would add greatly to the interest of the town, and would help in the technical education of our country in years to come. (Cheers.)

The Rev J. J. POYNTER, speaking in support of the motion, said he would not enter into details, but he would mention three things: the town already possessed a library of some eight thousand volumes, which might be regarded as the nucleus of any Free Library; those books belonged to them, and were placed in trust for the town. Now, if ever, it was, that they were to get a Free Library and Art Institute, because in a town of the size of Oswestry it would be almost impossible at any other time to raise the sum required for a building, and for its maintenance, and for the purchase of books; for the Free Library rate, as he supposed every member of the Committee was aware, must not exceed a penny. It seemed to him that if they could seize an opportunity like this of combining both the occasion and the object, with from ten to fifteen hundred pounds' worth of books to begin with, they had a glorious chance which they ought not to let slip. The other question was whether, if they reached anything like unanimity with regard to such a proposal, the subscriptions should not be arranged to extend over a term of years. He believed there were a great many friends who were wealthy and influential, who would be willing to let their subscriptions range, say over five years, and by that means those not so wealthy would be able to do more than they could do if called upon to pay money out of their pockets straight away. He had mingled a good deal with people of all sorts since they first met there, and he found in all directions a very strong feeling in favour of that course. (Hear, hear.)

Mr T. MINSHALL said he had carefully examined every scheme which had been suggested, and he had come to the conclusion that the one before them now was the one which they ought to adopt. (Cheers.) He thought it would be of more permanent good to the young people and others of the town than any other proposal which had been mooted. He hoped they would confirm the proposal unanimously. (Cheers.)

Mr Owen's motion was, after some discussion, put to the meeting and carried nem. con., and the following sub-committee was formed to consider the proposals and to report to the general committee:—The Mayor, the Town Clerk, Mr George Owen, the Rev. Canon Howell Evans, the Rev. J. J. Poynter, Mr E. Williams, Mr Peplow Cartwright, Mr R. Hughes, Mr Conacher, Mr Fletcher Rogers, Mr Spaul, Mr Whitfield, Mr Copley, Mr Bayley, Mr W. H. Thomas, Dr Blaikie, Mr Aston, Mr Maclardy, Mr W. T. Jones, Mr Wilkinson, Mr Emmanuel Williams, Mr E. Woodall, Mr H. C. Corfield, the Deputy Town Clerk (Mr W. Jackson), and the Borough Surveyor (Mr H. T. Wakelam).

FEBRUARY 23, 1887.

NOTES.

HANGING IN CHAINS.—In the *Gentleman's Magazine* April 6, 1757, p. 186, it is stated that Edw. Morgan, a young man, who had murdered Rees Morgan, Mary, his wife, and their daughter, at Llanvabon, Glamorganshire, was hung in chains near the farm house where the cruel murder was perpetrated, pursuant to his sentence at the preceding Assizes for the county.

BOOKWORM.

QUERIES.

SHROPSHIRE YEOMANRY CAVALRY.—Col. Wingfield is inquiring for information respecting the History of, and Uniform Worn by, the different Troops of Yeomanry in Shropshire from 1795 to 1872. Can any of our readers supply information in addition to that which appeared in *Bye-Gones* in 1884? Ed.

ROWLANDS'S ANGLESEY.—The late Canon Williams in *Eminent Welshmen*, p. 463, says that a copy and translation of Rowlands's unfinished "Parochial History of Anglesey," &c., had lately (1852) appeared in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*. Will some correspondent say in what volume this is.

BEN.

BLAEN-Y-GLYN.—From Dr. John Evans's Statistics of Nonconformists in England and Wales, collected in 1715, and quoted in Rees's *Nonconformity*, it appears that the Baptist congregation at "Blaen-y-glyn in Montgomeryshire" formed part of the pastoral charge of ministers resident in Radnorshire. Reference is also made in Rees's work (pp. 366, 367) to an Association of the Calvinistic Methodists, most probably a Monthly one, "held at Blaen-y-glyn, July 3, 1745." Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* say whether these places are identical, and fix the locality? There is a small farm of the name in the upper part of the parish of Llandinam; and a friend informs me that local tradition says a church (?) once stood there, and that some yew trees are still standing. Is this the place? T.H.J.

THE MYDDLETONS OF LLANSILIN (Jan. 12, 26, 1887).—I am extremely obliged for LLYWARCH HEN's information respecting this family. The absence of notices in the Registers, or on monuments in the parish may be accounted for by the fact that they probably resided latterly elsewhere. At least there are entries in the Wrexham Register, kindly furnished to me by Mr. A. N. Palmer, that seem to prove this, e.g., "March 10, 1678, Elizabeth wife of Richard Myddleton, Esq., Buried." "December 4, 1694, Richard Myddleton, Gent., Mrs. Barbara Wynne, married." From two pathetic elegies on this lady by Huw Morus (Eos Ceiriog, I, p. 12; II, p. 188), it appears that she was a daughter of the last John Wynn of Melai, Esq., and that she died of small pox in 1695 at the age of 23, within the year, therefore, of her marriage. On "Aug. 23, 1700," is recorded the burial at Wrexham of her husband, "Richard Middleton Gent. of Llansillin," so that they can scarcely have left any issue, and if so, the statement that "Foulk Myddelton of Plas Newydd was succeeded by his son Richard, who was followed by two more of the same name," is a mistake. The Pedigree in *Hist. Powys Vadog*, iv, 250, gives but two Richards, and there seems no reason to dispute the correctness of the statement. But the questions still remain for solution. 1, Whom did the first of these two Richard Myddletons marry? And 2, Who was the Mrs. Anne Myddleton of Plas Newydd, who is recorded to have left a legacy to the parish of Llansilin? H.W.L.

REPLIES.

NOVELS RELATING TO WALES (Nov. 17, Dec. 29, 1886).—In addition to "Gladys, the Reaper," Anne Beale has written "The Pennant Family," 1 Vol.; "Country Courtships," 3 Vols.; "Rose Mervyn: A Story of the Rebecca Riots," 3 Vols.; "Seven Years for Rachel; or Sketches from Nature, taken in Wales," 1 Vol.; "The Queen o' the May," 1 Vol. The scenes of these stories are laid in Glamorganshire, Cardiganshire, and Carmarthenshire. H.W.L.

OLD CUSTOM AT OSWESTRY (February 2, 16, 1887).—A similar query to that put by "T.A.D." was inserted in *Bye-Gones* on May 6, 1874 (Vol. II., p. 52), and several answers appeared on June 24, much like those which have now been published. One correspondent said the colliers at the Drill still observed the custom, and another pointed out that it was, until a short time before, observed at St. Martins, where it was known by the name of "The Star." To these various replies was appended an editorial note, embodying a quotation from *Notes and Queries*, where it was stated that in Belgium children carried about the streets from Christmas to Epiphany paper stars having a lighted candle in the centre, at the same time singing the verses of a carol. The appearance of the star at Bethlehem, the late editor of *Bye-Gones* adds, was doubtless the event commemorated in both cases. G.H.B. Cardiff.

COCKSHOT OR COCKSHUTT (Feb. 16, 1887).—In reply to the query of your correspondent "T.H.J.," may I be allowed to give the following as the meaning and derivation of the word? First, its derivation. *Cock* is one of four diminutives, *Cock*, *Kin*, *Et* and *En*. The

three first are still in common use: *Cock* in such words as *Cock-robin*, little robin; *Cock-loft*, a small upper room; *Cock-horse*, a diminutive horse; and both *Cock* and *Kin* in such names as Wilcox or Wilcock and Wilkin; also in such names of places as Cockburn, Cockett, Cockfield, Cockermouth, and Cockshot or Cockshutt. *Sholt* or *Shot* or *Shut* is an old English word for a wood, copse, or covert, and survives in the names of such well known places as Aldershot, Oakshot, Bagshot, meaning respectively the alder-wood, the oak-wood, and the badgers' wood. The meaning therefore of Cockshutt, or more correctly Cockshot, is Little Wood. In John Speed's topographical maps, dated 1610, and I believe the first of the counties of England and Wales ever printed, a Cockshot Chapel is marked a few miles from Ellesmere. On the same map Shrewsbury is spelt Shrowsbury, as still pronounced by native Salopians and invariably so by the peasantry. Cockshot is certainly of English and not Welsh derivation, though Croesmere, a township of Cockshot, is doubtless of mixed parentage. It was at one time the most easterly point of North Wales. The derivation and meaning given above have the merit of simplicity at any rate, but the opinion of other and abler correspondents will be awaited with interest by

THE VICAR OF COCKSHOT.

GEORGE III.'s JUBILEE (Dec. 1, 15, 22, 1886, Jan. 5, 1887).—A book with the following title-page includes accounts of rejoicings which took place in Shropshire, at the last Royal Jubilee:—

An
ACCOUNT
Of the Celebration of
THE JUBILEE
on the
25 October, 1809;

Being the forty-ninth Anniversary of the Reign
of

GEORGE THE THIRD,
"The Father of his People."

Collected & Published by
(A LADY)
The Wife of a Naval Officer.

"And all the people shouted and said, God save the King."
1st Samuel, c. 10, v. 24.

Printed by R. Jabet, Commercial Herald Office,
Birmingham;

And sold by Longman, Hurst, Rees, and Orme, Paternoster-Row, London; and all other booksellers in Town & Country.

The following are the local reports:—
SHROPSHIRE.

SHREWSBURY.—The auspicious day was ushered in so early as four o'clock by ringing of bells, which continued with little intermission throughout the day. Persons of all ranks crowded the streets at an early hour, some ready to join in the pleasures of the day, others anxiously waiting the hour of attendance on public worship that they might pour out their thanks to the great Disposer of Events, for the long reign of a Patriot King. About eleven o'clock, the Mayor and Body Corporate, preceded by

the different incorporated companies, with their ensigns and banners, and a band of music, proceeded from the Guildhall to St. Chad's Church, where a sermon was preached to a very crowded audience, by the Rev. Mr. Nunn, from Neh. ii, 3, and the service concluded with the national anthem of "God save the King."—The Shrewsbury Yeomanry mustered strong on the occasion, and attended at St. Julian's where a highly appropriate discourse was delivered by their chaplain, the Rev. H. Owen, to a very numerous congregation. The different recruiting parties in the town also attended divine service, and on this interesting occasion, the parochial churches, the chapels, and the meeting houses of Dissenters of every description in the town, were fully attended; and the discourses delivered in all of them such as tended to promote in an eminent degree the objects of the day. On the return of the party of the 53rd from church, they were assembled in the Square, and fired a *feu de joie*, and then cheered. The Yeomanry afterwards met in the Square, under the command of Captain Lloyd, where they waited a considerable time for the return of the Mayor from St. Chad's. Soon after his arrival the music struck up "God save the King," the troops fired a *feu de joie*, and concluded with three times three cheers. Colonel Lethbridge gave a military dinner to the officers in town. The dinner parties at the Inns were numerous; and many respectable persons treated their labourers and mechanics, together with their wives and children, in a very liberal and hospitable manner. The inmates of the House of Industry were indulged with roast meat, and a portion of good beer to drink the health of their King. The children at some of the charity schools partook of buns, coffee, &c., and the best boy and girl at the schools founded by the late Mr. Allatt had each a Jubilee medal presented to them, which they wore through the day. In short, the day passed as it was intended—the tears of the widowed matron and unprotected child were dried up—the victim of penury has been cheered—and means have been adopted for the release of the debtor, and the relief of the subject of disease. Thus, while it has gratified the characteristic loyalty of the inhabitants of this town it has given to their beneficence an ample scope and sure direction. The doors of some of the principal inhabitants were ornamented with laurel, to which were attached mottoes and devices. The barges on the river were decorated with laurel, flags, and pendants; the firing of cannon and muskets, with every other customary demonstration of popular satisfaction (except illumination) were abundantly displayed; and at night, fireworks were exhibited from the gardens of Mr. Benyon, Mr. Lloyd, and Dr. Evans; and bonfires were observed on many of the distant hills in the county.—The subscription for the poor amounted to nearly £500.

ADDERLEY HALL.—The seat of Sir Corbet Corbet, Bart. The ringing of the bells, and display of a large flag on the tower of the church, ushered in the morning. Divine service was performed at ten o'clock, before the largest congregation ever assembled there, and an excellent and most appropriate sermon on the occasion preached by the Rev. W. Judgson. After service ended, a Royal Salute of twenty-one guns was fired from an eminence in front of the park at Adderley, and dinner immediately served up to upwards of 100 children, educated at the Adderley School, the military band playing "God Save the King." At two the labourers and their wives and children, to the number of 150, had a plentiful banquet in the riding house. When this was finished Sir Corbet, after a short and impressive speech, drank the King's health, with three times three, which was followed by "God Save the King," played by the full band, and sung by the company present. While the band and attending servants retired to another

room to dine, the labourers had a plentiful supply of excellent ale. All the tenants' wives and daughters were invited to tea at the Hall at six, and a very handsome display of fireworks took place at seven, and continued till eight. The cannon were again fired, when the female party adjourned from the hall to a very handsome suite of rooms over the riding-house. Joined by the tenants, &c., the festive dance now commenced, and continued, with the intermission only of a very handsome supper, till a late hour in the morning.

BISHOP'S CASTLE.—Thirty pounds were given by the Members for the Borough, and the Earl of Powis, to which the inhabitants at large subscribed, and distributed the whole to the poor and needy.

BRIDGNORTH.—The morning was ushered in by the firing of cannon and ringing of bells; which were only suspended during the time of Divine service, and at short intervals the rest of the day. A very handsome subscription having been previously collected for the poor, was distributed among them; and at twelve o'clock the Bailiffs and Corporation in their gowns, the Free Masons in the Insignia of their Order, and the Morfe Loyal Volunteers in their full uniform, proceeded in one continued procession, accompanied by the worthy Members for the Borough, Thomas Whitmore and Isaac Hawkins Browne, Esqrs., the principal inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, to the Church of St. Mary, where the service of the day was performed, and an appropriate sermon preached by the Rev. Thomas Dethick. It was delivered from the heart with an energy of which he appeared from every corporeal symptom incapable, being scarcely recovered from a long illness; it was universally admired, and listened to with the deepest silence by a very crowded and attentive congregation. The discourse was masterly and contained some highly wrought encomiums upon the King for his religious principles, moral conduct, and readiness to sacrifice every personal interest for the Protestant Religion and security of the Established Church. After the service was concluded the Volunteers marched to High-street where, having fired three excellent volleys, they filed off by companies to different inns, and were regaled with true English fare, provided for them at the expense of Colonel Whitmore and the other officers of the Corps; the Colonel also presented the town with some splendid fireworks. Sumptuous dinners were served at the Castle and Crown Forts, when the circling glass passed rapidly to loyal toasts and songs, rapturously applauded and enthusiastically cheered. There was a ball in the evening at the Town Hall, under the patronage of the Bailiffs, Benjamin Gates and Francis Moore, Esqs., which was numerously and genteely attended, the profits from which were added to the Charitable Fund. Dancing was kept up to a late hour, when the company dispersed, expressing themselves highly gratified by a day in which all ranks seemed animated by one idea of loyalty, and which they had passed not only with joyful conviviality but with perfect harmony.

BROSELEY.—The morning was ushered in with a discharge of cannon at five o'clock. A subscription for the poor had been previously arranged. The Rector the Rev Thomas Forester, also supplied six fat sheep and two barons of beef, and after Divine service upwards of 800 people were supplied with roast and boiled beef, vegetables, and one quart of ale each. The principal inhabitants sat down to a sumptuous dinner at the Town Hall, which in the evening was most splendidly illuminated.

COALBROOKE DALE.—At the Porcelain manufactory of Messrs John Rose and Co, six fat sheep were roasted whole for the entertainment of their numerous artists and

work people in celebrating the Jubilee, and two hogsheads of good Shropshire ale given to drink the King's health.

ELLESMERE.—The Jubilee was celebrated here in a very impressive manner. In the course of a few hours, on the Monday, near £100 was subscribed by the inhabitants; and on Wednesday over 200 poor people were regaled in the Town Hall, whilst their wives and families enjoyed themselves at home, with money distributed for that purpose. A sum was also appropriated to find the poor in coals during the winter. A procession to Church took place, and afterwards a large number of the inhabitants sat down to an excellent dinner at the Bridgwater Arms, and the glass was circulated in harmony till a late hour, when the company separated, having first of all voted their unanimous thanks to Mr Rogers, for his sumptuous dinner, excellent wines, and great attention paid to his friends; not only on that day, but on every former occasion.

GREAT NESS.—The western division of the Hundred of Pimhill Light Horse Volunteers celebrated the Jubilee in the neighbourhood of Nesscliffe, with an observance of religious and military duties in the morning, and the remainder of the day in festivities, elegantly and liberally adapted to the occasion. A most excellent sermon was preached at Great Ness, by the Rev George Martin, from I. Peter, chap. 2, v. 17. After which the corps was hospitably received at the Hall, by their worthy Lieutenant, John Edwards, Esq. They next proceeded to a field beautifully situated on the south side of Nesscliffe with the General, and their honorary members, in a room fitted up for this occasion, with much taste, by the ladies of the neighbourhood. The day following was dedicated to the charitable distribution of a most bountiful donation of provisions and money, in the neighbourhood; and at Boreaston Hall, an ox was killed and dealt out, and blankets were also given to the really deserving poor.

HALES OWEN.—Besides the usual demonstrations of loyalty and joy, a liberal subscription was made for the poor, at a public meeting convened by the high bailiff, with which five fat cows were purchased and distributed to nearly 600 families in that town and neighbourhood.

LINLEY.—At the hospitable mansion of R. More, Esq., all the tenants and their families were invited to a dinner, at which their respected landlord presided, and who with his amiable family enjoyed the sight of the youthful dancers in the evening. Two fat sheep were roasted, and, with plenty of ale, distributed to his workmen and the neighbouring poor of the parishes of More and Shelve. On the hills above the hall bonfires were kindled, and the noise of cannon was echoed by the rocks and woods; fireworks were displayed at night. Nor were the rejoicings of the industrious poor confined to that day only, for the generous master ordered to some families a bushel, and to others half a bushel of wheat, according to the number of children. A party of the surrounding gentry dined together on the succeeding day.

LUDLOW.—The Bailiffs, Corporation, and a very numerous body of gentlemen and tradesmen, went in procession to church, and parties dined at the principal inns.

NEWPORT.—In this town, and the adjoining parishes on the confines of this county and Staffordshire, subscriptions were appropriated to the relief of the poor; oxen and sheep roasted; plenty of good ale; firing of cannon; bonfires; the military yeomanry were on duty in their neighbourhood; the loyal corps or Cavalry Troop of the Batchacre Legion, commanded by Richard Whitworth, Esq., Lieut.-Colonel, who marched a gallant set of horsemen to the

town of Newport, and fired a *feu de joie*; the troop in their way to the camp had the honour of being regaled, and drinking the King's health at the hospitable mansion of Thomas Barrow, Esq., of Chetwynd Hall.

OSWESTRY.—The Magistrates went in procession to Church; the Cavalry assembled and fired in honour of the day, and by a happy occurrence, the lamps newly put up were for the first time lighted on the 25th. The generous subscriptions of the inhabitants afforded a dinner, in the Town Hall, to the children of the Sunday Schools. The ball at the Cross Foxes was well attended.—At Whittington, about 170 children were regaled by the worthy Rector, the Rev Mr Lloyd.

SHIFFNALL.—The inhabitants of this place were among the first to propose, and among the first to celebrate, with national rejoicings, the festivities of this extraordinary day.

WHITCHURCH.—After a very excellent sermon at the Church, the sum of £29 18s was collected. Contributions to a large amount were also added by the inhabitants; the whole to be appropriated to purchase coals for the poor in winter. E.

CURRENT NOTES.

The first instalment of the Rev. D. S. Evans's Welsh Dictionary has been published by Messrs Trubner and Co.

Principal Viriamu Jones, of the South Wales College, has been appointed Examiner of the Honours School of Natural Science in the University of Oxford.

Mr James Watson, M.P., has presented one of the handsome and rare jugs made in 1841 in commemoration of the great Conservative victory in Shropshire to the Shrewsbury Beaconsfield club. The groundwork of the glazing is of royal blue, and on it, in gilt letters, are inscribed the names of the 12 successful candidates, among them being the name of Mr Benjamin Disraeli, who was that year returned for the borough of Shrewsbury.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, on Thursday, assisted by Sir J. P. Deane, Q.C., Vicar-General, heard an appeal in the Lambeth Palace Library by Rev. Robert Wilkes Gosse against the refusal of the Bishop of Llandaff to admit him to the living of Goytre, Monmouthshire, to which he had been presented by the Marquis of Abergavenny. The grounds of the refusal were that the reverend gentleman could not speak Welsh. It was admitted that application had been made to be heard before a commission which reported that the presentee was ineligible, but the hearing was refused. The Archbishop sent the case back to the Bishop of Llandaff, holding that the refusal of hearing was illegal. A request that the Archbishop should institute the presentee was over-ruled by the court.

The Jubilee Date Book is the very appropriate title of one of the most useful little works ever compiled for the antiquary and historical student, as it condenses into the briefest possible compass information which most persons of that class are constantly in need of and very seldom know how to obtain. It has been compiled by Mr Walford H. Selby, of Her Majesty's Public Record Office, a guarantee of its absolute accuracy. It contains a table of regnal years, beginning with William the Conqueror and ending with the close of Her Majesty's Jubilee Year, 19th June, 1887. Most of our readers, we venture to say, would have considerable difficulty in deciding in what historical or civil year the 24th of King George the III. fell; much more difficult would it probably be to say in what year the 18th of Henry II. was. This little handbook would dispose of the difficulty. There are many foot-notes appended to the

tables which explain points that hitherto have not been very clear. If it contained nothing more than these regnal tables it would be a very good shilling's worth; but it contains a great deal more. There is a lucid explanation of the double-date, a combination that has puzzled, is puzzling, and will puzzle generations of people yet to come. 'Previously to 1752 the civil or legal year in this country commenced on the 25th of March, whilst the historical year began on the 1st of January. Thus the period between the 1st of January and the 24th of March was assignable to different years according to the system adopted by the particular writer. For example the legal date 24 March, 1658, was the same as the historical date 24 March, 1659; for according to both systems the next day was 25 March, 1659. The example then above cited should appear as

24 March, 1658-9 or 1659—civil or legal year.
—historical year.

Hence whenever a double date is met with the lower figure (if expressed fractionally), or later year, is the historical year. The necessity of the double date system is at once apparent if the date is attempted to be written otherwise; for 24 March, 1658, might mean 1658-9 (*i.e.* 1659 historically), or 1657-8 (*i.e.* 1658 historically), whereas 24 March, 1659, indicates the historical year 1659, and

no other historical year.' In early charters, the days of the week are given in Latin, a key to which is furnished, and what will be found very useful to students is the perpetual calendar. The way to use this is made so plain that the veriest tyro would have no difficulty in ascertaining almost instantaneously on what day of the week the Battle of Hastings was fought—Oct. 14, 1066. To solve this problem by a calculation would puzzle a pretty accomplished arithmetician! This useful table is succeeded by a list of the most Common Saints' Days. Many people could say on what day of the month All Saints' Day falls, and perhaps Lammas Day and Candlemas. There are others almost as commonly referred to in ancient documents as days for doing service or paying Fee Farm and Quit Rents, such as Phillip and James, SS. Ap.; St. Andrew the Apostle, St. Michael the Archangel. Some well-informed persons might not so quickly decide when these latter occur. Movable Feasts and the principle which governs them are clearly set forth. The styles which were formerly applied to the Kings of England are described, and will be found useful to students in determining the reigns to which Charters should be assigned.

The dates of what are called the three great plagues of England, taken from Lansdowne MS., No. 863, fol. 147 b, are given. The first raged from 31st May to 29th September, 1349, followed by number two in 1361-2, and the third in 1369. References are given to valuable lists and calendars printed in Sir Harris Nicolas's *Chronology of History* (edition 1833), and last, but by no means least, there is a dissertation upon 'Abbreviations.' We speak feelingly when we say, if we had had this at hand thirty years ago, we should have been saved many and many an hour of mental worry, for every person who has looked at a Record or Instrument of any kind, even a couple of centuries old, will admit that the omission of letters in words, the peculiar signs, marks, dots, circumflexes, bonds, &c., &c., have been a puzzle which hundreds of persons have given up as insolvable. To be appreciated this most useful (and we believe, novel) attempt to educate the aspirant who desires to comprehend ancient records, must be seen and studied. To students who desire to take a deeper plunge into these mysteries, reference is given to works of a more comprehensive character. Accurate examples of the different kind of type are given, with all

the signs of abbreviation distinctly delineated. We feel assured, as the able compiler, in his modest prefatory note says, that "although primarily designed for the assistance of the antiquary and historical student, the information given in a concise and handy form will be found useful in a far wider circle. It is therefore to be hoped that many besides the learned 'Dryasdust' will feel inclined to enlist this 'raw recruit—by means of the Queen's shilling'" which is the published price of the work. The publishers are Messrs. Wyman and Sons, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

IS THE WREN THE KING OF THE BIRDS?—Mr Walter Wren writes as follows on behalf of his namesake, to the *Pall Mall Gazette*:—In your review of Swainson's 'Folk Lore of British Birds,' I read 'the wren, paradoxically regarded as the king of birds.' There is no paradox. The wren is the king of the birds. The birds met to choose their king. The eagle said that power to fly was the best test of fitness, and that the bird who could soar highest and fly longest ought to be king. The wren is the Ulysses of birds. He stole quietly behind the eagle, foretelling that no bird was likely to withstand the eagle to his face. The eagle's motion was carried nem. con. At a given signal the birds all started on their flight. The wren jumped on the eagle's back. The eagle having satisfied himself that he had outflown all the rest and given a few swoops of triumph began to go down. Then the wren began to go up, and soared higher than the eagle's highest. The eagle went in chase, but was too tired to catch the wren, and had to go down slowly, the wren singing his song of victory just above. When they reached the ground the wren was chosen king unanimously. In Ireland on St. Stephen's Day the boys catch a wren and tie him by the leg to a branch of furze, and go round singing—

The Wren, the Wren, the King of the Birds,
St. Stephen's Day was caught in the furze.
Although he's little, his majesty's great:
God bless your honour, give him a trate.

The wren never gets wet or cold. His nest is always in a well-protected place. In very wet weather he hides in the thickest furze, where it is always dry. He always knows when it is going to rain, and hides in time. Hence the ancient crest of the Wrens is a 'wren proper,' holding in his claw a trefoil (which closes when it is going to rain). The motto is 'Turbinibus superest, cœlo duce præscius' ('He survives the storms, foreknowing through the guidance of heaven the signs of the sky'). St. Stephen is our patron saint.

MARRIAGE OF COL. KENYON-SLANEY, M.P., TO LADY MABEL BRIDGEMAN.

The marriage of Col. W. S. Kenyon-Slaney, of Hatton Grange, Shifnal, Member of Parliament for the Northern Division of Shropshire, and of Lady Mabel Selina Bridgeman, eldest daughter of the Earl of Bradford, Lord Lieutenant of the county, and of the Countess of Bradford, was solemnized in the parish church of St. Andrew's, Weston, yesterday. The officiating clergy were the Bishop of Lichfield, the Rev. Lord Forester, the Hon. and Rev. Canon Bridgeman, Rev E. W. O. Bridgeman, the Rev. C. F. Townley, and the Rev. Douglas Murray.

A little after half-past two Col. and Lady Mabel Kenyon-Slaney left Weston Park on their honeymoon, driving thence to Willey Park, near Broseley. They drove in a carriage drawn by four greys, and ridden by outriders in classic costume; the carriage was preceded by a guard of honour of the Yeomanry Cavalry, not in uniform. Soon after three they drove into Shifnal whose

streets could not in bunting have expressed greater good will than they did. Stopping in the centre of the town the Colonel and his bride were received by an immense throng, which cheered them lustily. As soon as he was able to approach the carriage, the Rev G. Wingate, on behalf of the subscribers, presented a congratulatory address to the Colonel.

The carriage then resumed its journey to Willey.

The bridal presents were about three hundred and eighty in number.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

WELSHPOOL.

The Mayoress (Mrs T. Rowley Morris) has collected £33 11s for the general fund of the Women and Girls' Jubilee Offering, from 1,556 contributors.

WHITCHURCH.

A meeting was held in the Town Hall, at Whitchurch, on Monday afternoon, and there was a large and representative attendance. Mr J. Bromfield presided, and he was supported on the platform by Major Lee, the Rev. W. H. Egerton (rector), the Hon G. Ormsby-Gore, Mr P. W. Godsal, Mr R. P. Ethelston, Mr C. H. Poole, Mr S. T. Gwynn, Mr R. T. Smith, Mr W. Pearson, and Mr J. G. Harrison.

In opening the meeting the CHAIRMAN said that the fact of Her Majesty having been allowed to reign over this country for nearly half a century, was so unusual and remarkable, both in the duration and the character of the reign, that there had been an almost universal expression of opinion in the country that some notice should be taken of the Jubilee, but his duty on the present occasion was not so much to portray the advantages of the Queen's reign as to tell them that they had assembled to decide how they should mark the event in that locality. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. W. H. EGERTON proposed 'That it is the opinion of this meeting that the Jubilee of the Queen's accession to the throne be duly observed in Whitchurch.' The rev. gentleman said that having lived for nine years of his life in the reign of George III, and having lived throughout the reigns of George IV and William IV, and now through all the years of Queen Victoria's reign, he should be simply blind, and certainly incapable of anything like common observation, if he were not to value the inestimable blessings of the Victorian age as compared with the preceding reigns. (Cheers.) He did not say that it had been all sunshine. Unhappily we had had many sad wars during the reign, and though they might have been politically necessary, yet few people would say the advantages had been commensurate with the great loss of British life, and the great expenditure of British treasure. As to our commercial relationships he thought everyone would admit that it had been a very disappointing thing to find that no other nation had followed our example in the matter of Free Trade, the consequence being that England was very heavily weighted in the race of competition with the nations of Europe. The produce of this land was unfairly taxed, and the consequence was that the supply of labour was greatly in excess of the demand, and that very naturally led to the great discontent which prevailed among the masses, especially in London, at the present time. But these were not the topics which should be dwelt upon at such a meeting; they should look beyond these passing clouds to the real sunshine of Victoria's reign, and all would admit that there never was a reign in which all questions which affected the grandeur of the nation and the happiness of the people were more thoroughly fostered than they had been under the sway of our gracious Queen. (Cheers.) Never was there a time, and never was there a country, in which the monarchical principles harmonised so entirely with the exercise of the constitutional wish of

the people, thereby making a combination of regal authority, toned by the voice spoken both by the hereditary and by the representative assemblies, which was our very best security against anarchy and revolution on the one hand and against despotism or the oppression of autocracy on the other. The Queen had never acted contrary to the expressed will of the people. She had ruled this country in equity and in the fear of God, and God had blessed this nation in consequence above all other nations upon the face of the earth. (Cheers.) There never was a reign in which there had been such progress in science and in art, or a period in which there was so much education and enlightenment for the people. There never was a period in which so much benevolence was exercised: when so many institutions had been built throughout the country for every form and phase of human malady, and, speaking of the Church, was there ever such an age of church building and church restoration? If they wanted an example of the exercise of every Christian virtue, where would they find it more truly exemplified than in the person of their blessed sovereign? (Cheers.) Where would they find a heart that sympathized more truly and really with the sufferings and sorrows of all her subjects, and where would they find a Court so free from the immoralities which had been the disgrace of the reigns of previous kings? While they blessed God for the inestimable blessings they had enjoyed in the Queen's reign, they should pray that she might live for many years to come to reign over this country. He felt sure that all would cordially accept the resolution. (Cheers.)

Major LEE said he had great pleasure in seconding the resolution, which he felt sure would commend itself to the acceptance of all present. Their action on the present occasion was not merely to do honour to the sovereign of this country, it was to commemorate a great epoch in the history of the nation; it was not only that they wished to honour and shew affection to a monarch, who, during many long and harassing years, had had the sovereignty of this country, and who, during that time, had discharged the duties with an excellence which was beyond all comparison, but they also wished to mark and to bear record of the expiration of a span of time without its equal in the history of the world. It was therefore, he thought, an action of good judgment on the part of those who had the conduct of this matter that they had wished to give, so to speak, a national impress to any action which was taken on this occasion in honour of this jubilee of the Queen's reign. It was, he thought, a wise and prudent action that in the first place they should give it a national sympathy and impress, and it was part of their action on that occasion, it was part of the policy which they adopted, that they should aid with regard to funds the Imperial Institute, the Colonial Institute of this country. In that way they gave a strong and national impression to the action they took. Besides doing this they would also take some local action; and do something which they, after some consideration, thought would be a means of accelerating their progress from a social point of view in the neighbourhood. By taking this double action he thought they would adopt a wise and prudent course. Let them take first the course they proposed with regard to the Imperial Institute of this country. This was, he thought, an excellent way of placing on record the great progress which they as Englishmen had made with regard to the national action of this country. As they knew, in former times, with regard to the Colonies, the impression used to prevail that they were rather encumbrances than otherwise. Englishmen were hardly alive to the fact of the immense influence which was exercised by our colonies, how totally essential

their welfare was to ours, how helpless we were without them, not only in regard to our colonial action and our action as affected the Colonies themselves, but also with regard to our European policy. Of late years we had experienced a great change in this respect; we had found out that without the Colonies we were almost helpless as a European power. We were strongly reminded of this when on an occasion not far distant we found that we were helped in a great European crisis by the accession of something like 10,000 men of our Indian army to be our help on that occasion. That showed what was to be done in the way of creating a great English empire, not merely a colonial empire, but a great English empire, with all its parts mutually interdependent and mutually helping one another. At this present crisis in the history of the reign of the Queen, we had thoroughly to carry out that policy. We had to render our colonies mutually interdependent, mutually helpful to one another, and helpful to England. When we had done that he believed the result would be that this England of ours, which had attained an almost unique position in the history of the world, would receive an accession of strength of which our predecessors had very little idea indeed. We should find that these small islands of ours, which exercised over the world an imperial dominion which no Cæsar ever knew, would be able to carry out that dominion in all its fulness. In the stately language of Canning, we should find that we should have called a new world into existence to redress the balance of the old; we should find that by the expansion and the consolidation of our colonial empire we should have made Great Britain far more magnificent, far more powerful than she ever was before. It had fallen to our lot at this era of the reign of Queen Victoria, to carry out the consolidation and the expansion of the English empire, and they would mark that epoch, he believed, in the most becoming and most fitting manner by supporting the Imperial Institute, which would be brought before their attention more in detail at some future time. But while he believed that the present occasion was one on which they could regard with great fitness the imperial position which we now occupied, and to which we had attained, he thought, in a greater degree in the last few years than ever before, he thought we should also pay attention to the great social improvement which had marked the reign of the Queen to which we could not pay too much regard at the present period of time. It was quite true that it was our duty as Englishmen to regard our imperial position, but it was also our duty to regard our national and social position. Let them take a short retrospect of the reign of the Queen. It had been marked as they knew, by many changes. If they glanced at the earlier part of the reign they would find Lord Melbourne as Prime Minister, and he was succeeded by Sir Robert Peel, and there had been since that day a succession of great names. What a career did that mark in the social progress of this country? If we glanced at the early part of the reign we should find that these social subjects which now interested and engaged our attention so much were considered as comparatively small matters. The great men who were then Prime Ministers of this country considered they discharged their duties if they paid sufficient attention to the routine business, but since then it was not too much to say that anyone in this country who had occupied a public position had not asserted or had not fulfilled his right to do so unless he has done all in his power to promote the social welfare of the people of this country. This reign has marked an extension in the general ideas of this country with regard to social progress which had never been experienced before. It was quite true that social progress had not been identified with any particular political party. The great pioneer of social progress in this country, Lord Shaftesbury, was connected with neither of the great political parties; he turned aside from the path which lay before him, bright as it was

with the prospect of political honours and success, and sought for a nobler satisfaction simply in promoting the welfare and the benefit of his fellow-men—(cheers)—and his action formed the foundation of the great social movements which had been made since for the promotion in every way of the comfort of the people. And it was most agreeable to consider that that social welfare was now in the hands of no political party, but whoever aspired to guide the destinies of this country would find an equal reason to promote it by every means in his power. (Hear, hear.) These were the two salient and principal points which should enlist their attention on that occasion. In the first place they would give support, as he was sure they would, to the great national means of commemorating this occasion, and they would also pay special attention to any means which might occur to them, and which might lie in their power for their own particular social amelioration and improvement. He could quite imagine that having regard to the last fifty years many would feel some symptoms of melancholy misgiving. They might see many institutions swept away, many ideas dear to them might have gone into the dim past, they might have to recast, so to speak, their frame of mind, and look altogether into an altered and a different future. He would say to such that he did not in any way share their apprehensions. He considered that having regard to the past reign of the Queen, having regard to the great improvements which had occurred, not only in science, not only in politics, but in every other phase of thought, that they had every reason to look forward to an equally brilliant and equally satisfactory future. It was quite true that by the law of growth and change, which was the condition of human existence, the opinions and the phases of thought which existed to-day could not in the ordinary nature of things be the same which would exist to-morrow, but still we had every reason to suppose that a far greater success than we had any reason to boast of would be attained in the future with reference to social improvement and national amelioration. In the incidents of to-day—although to some they might appear gloomy—any thoughtful mind could see in the not far distant future the dawn and the out-coming of a far brighter era in the history of our national civilization. (Cheers.)

The motion having been carried, the CHAIRMAN said they had to consider in what way the event should be celebrated, and he mentioned as things which had been talked of, a recreation ground, almshouses, baths, and wash-houses, the improvement of Pearl Yard, and the illumination of the church clock.

Mr R. T. SMITH proposed "That the commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee take the form of a public recreation ground."

Mr W. PEARSON seconded the resolution, expressing an opinion in favour of a playground for children rather than an ornamental park, and hoping that the proposal for public baths could be amalgamated in some way.

Mr W. LEDSHAM said they did not want a public park in Whitchurch, and with regard to the playground he should like it to be understood that it was simply for little children.

The CHAIRMAN said any suggestions could be made to the Committee which would be appointed.

Major LEE said he felt that there was nothing so essential for the welfare of the town as the institution of public baths, but his idea was that the work might be done by a company, or by the Local Board, who would have the power of providing the water, which would save a great deal of expense.

The Hon. G. ORMSBY-GORE proposed the appointment of the following Committee, who it was agreed should consider any proposals made, and report to another meeting:—The members of the Local Board, the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Board of Guardians, viz., Mr R. P. Ethelston, Mr Brookes, and Mr Vaudrey, the rector (the Rev W. H. Egerton), Col. Bulkeley, Mr Joseph Beckett, Mr Beck, Mr John W. Clinton, Mr John Cuppage, Mr H. H. Etches, Mr Downward, Mr James Ewart, Mr J. Jones, Mossfields, Mr Joyce, Hinton, Mr Thomas Nunnerley, the Rev F. H. Naylor (Wesleyan), St. Mary's-street, Mr T. Topham, Twemlows, and Mr T. Wilson, Alkington Hall.

Dr GWYNN afterwards spoke, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the meeting.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

EARLY BRITISH ARCHITECTURE.

By MR J. P. SEDDON, F.R.I.B.A.

The winter session of the Honourable Society of Cymrodorion began with a paper on Early British Architecture by Mr J. P. Seddon, F.R.I.B.A., who is well known in Mid-Wales as the architect of the Aberystwyth College.

The chair was occupied by Colonel R. O. Jones, R.E., C.B. The following resumé of Mr Seddon's paper will be found interesting :—

Early British Architecture is somewhat of an unknown quantity, seeing that all remnants of it have perished; and yet absent though it be in the body, it is still very present in the spirit, for it rules to this day the Church architecture of the British Isles, and has given to it many of the most prominent features of its very distinct individuality as compared with all other Christian architecture on the Continent of Europe. When we speak of architecture we usually refer to ecclesiastical architecture, for the simple reason that it is that alone which has come down to us from early ages; the contemporary domestic architecture has vanished or become so altered by successive fashions that it is difficult to trace its sequence. But that is not so with church architecture, the history of which is tolerably clear, so that a reason is deducible from every detail of it. In the early ages of primitive Christianity numberless churches were built throughout the Roman Empire, from Asia Minor and Egypt in the East to the British Isles in the West. But during the subsequent persecutions of the time of Diocletian these were systematically destroyed. Nevertheless in isolated places sufficient remains of them exist to shew their general characteristics and to prove that those main characteristics were universal throughout Christendom. The type was naturally a simple one, and no doubt both the form of their structures and the mode of ritual conducted within them were founded on those of the synagogues and the Jewish worship that had obtained before the coming of Christ; and those no doubt had preserved the traditions derived directly from the Tabernacle and the Temple that had succeeded it, the form and use of the former of which had been dictated to Moses by God himself. Now although all the styles of church architecture which have succeeded each other in Christendom have come from Rome as the centre, modified more or less by Eastern or rather Greek influence, in Rome itself are no remains now to be found of this first development of Christian architecture, except so far as it has been copied in the Catacombs, where cave churches were excavated by the persecuted Christian community, in imitation of those above ground, from which it had been driven. But in recently discovered ruined cities of the Hâïran district in Asia Minor, and in the Coptic villages of Egypt, are yet to be found buildings of the date and type referred to, and in Ireland are others which, though later, have preserved the tradition of this primitive Christian architecture. The simplest type of plan of these churches is a plain rectangular parallelogram, divided into two unequal parts by a transverse wall pierced in the middle by a comparatively small archway. The smaller of these compartments of the building is the Sanctuary for the use of the celebrants of the service. The altar table was placed in the middle of its space, and there was behind it against the end wall a bench or seat for the clergy; a curtain was hung in or behind this archway to hide, when needed, the altar and celebrants from the congregation who were assembled in the outer and larger compartment of the building. In this curtain we have the counterpart of the veil of the temple, and it may still be seen in the Greek churches in this metropolis. From the 4th to the 7th century, after Christianity, by favour of Constantine, regained freedom, till it ultimately attained dominion throughout the Empire, great changes took place both as to the character of the churches built and as to the ritual of the worship held in them. At Rome what is called the Basilican type of church plan was substituted for the primitive one. This is wrongly supposed to have

been adapted from, and indeed was somewhat similar to that of the Basilica or halls of justice of Ancient Rome. In all probability, however, the term Basilican as applied to these churches, simply meant Royal (from the Greek word *Basilus*, a king), and was an epithet fitly given to buildings erected in honor of the King of Kings. If adapted at all from Pagan structures, it is more probable that the temples furnished the type for imitation. Taking then the simplest form of this so-called Basilican type of church to compare with that of the Primitive age; the plan is a plain rectangular parallelogram with an apsidal or rounded projection at one end open to the building by a wide and large ('triumphal') archway, and this apsidal projection served as the sanctuary or presbytery; the altar stood under the centre of the archway, in advance of the end wall, and there was a continuous bench or seat for clergy round this wall, with a prominent raised place in the centre for the Bishop. The great differences then between these two types of plan are that the earlier is square ended, while the later is apsidal or rounded, and that in the former the archway of separation is small for the purpose of being easily screened and concealing the sanctuary, while in the latter it is large with the opposite view of exposure, the ritual screening of the altar still maintained being effected by its being placed under a canopy (*Baldachino*), to which curtains were attached, to be drawn when needed. Now this new type spread over Continental Christendom from Rome, the plan in larger churches being made cruciform by the addition of a transept; at first being made in the form of the Latin cross, with one arm longer than the rest, the true Roman plan, and afterwards, and occasionally with all arms of the cross equal, which is the Greek cross. The British Isles, however, having been abandoned by the Romans and conquered by the Saxons, reverted partially to Heathendom, but where Christianity survived, the original type of Church plan and ritual were adhered to. In 596 A.D. St. Augustine was sent over to England from Rome by Pope Gregory to introduce into, as he supposed, a heathen country Christianity as then practised at Rome. But although St. Augustine came as a missionary to convert the Heathen Saxons, he found that Christianity had been long before established in the Island, and he did not, without a struggle, obtain authority over its Churches. What, then, had become of the old British Church, which could boast of such names as that of the Martyr St. Alban? The Britons had been driven westward before their Saxon conquerors, and been obliged to take refuge among the mountains of Wales and Cumberland, and amid the rocks of Cornwall, and they had taken their Church with them, and the Church in Ireland, which had been introduced into that Island by the English Britons, and therefore an offshoot of the Primitive Church, being comparatively unmolested by the Saxons, continued its course. The Saxons, who had brought to England their Pagan mythology, and were worshippers of false gods and idols, probably needed this missionary enterprise of the good Pope Gregory. St. Augustine attempted to unite the two Churches, but failed to do so, although he met the representatives of the British Church in conclave, under an oak by the Severn, and it was a very long time before this benevolent desire of his was fulfilled. Doubtless this was then to be regretted, but the result upon English Architecture of his failure has been that the early British type of Church was not wholly swamped by his, as it would have been; and that it has maintained its character and modified all English Church Architecture to this day, and made it distinctly different from that of Continental Christendom. The growth of the monastic system, however, introduced by S. Augustine, brought very great changes into church

planning from the necessity it caused to provide separate spaces for the services of the monks from those of the laity. He built a church as his cathedral at Canterbury, which, as far as can be learned from descriptions, was a large rectangular aisled church with an apse at each end. Now double apsed churches and some churches with apses to the transepts as well as at both ends are to be found on the Continent in the Rhenish provinces. At Canterbury the *raison d'être* of this new departure is evident as each apse held an altar, so that one was for the monastic, and the other for the lay congregation, and a narrow transept, emphasized externally by a tower on each side of the church, midway of its length, divided them. This raises the question as to the orientation of churches, as to which the early practice was for the Bishop to face eastward from his seat against the end wall, behind the altar, looking towards the congregation. Consequently the altar was at the west end of the church, and the entrance doorways were in the east wall, and there was outside the east wall a narthex or porch, and sometimes a court for catechumens who were not admitted into the body of the church, so that the early churches were not orientated at all, as we are apt to imagine was always the case, and at Rome very few churches indeed are orientated. In later times, however, the position of the congregation was altered, and made to face eastward, but then the Bishop continued to face the same way; but he then stood in front of instead of as formerly at the back of the altar, and his back instead of his face was towards the congregation, and he became, as it were, one with them. The square east end, however, which had become the tradition of British church architecture, continued to distinguish English ecclesiastical church architecture from Continental, although the apsidal termination is to be found in a few churches which specially affected the foreign fashions, or were built by French architects, such as Canterbury Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Tewkesbury, and a few others. Other changes were introduced by reason of the monastic requirements. In Ireland we find churches usually subdivided into two almost distinct buildings for this purpose by a tower placed right in the middle of them with only small archways pierced in them to give passage from one division to the other, so that the two congregations were practically separated. In English Cathedrals we find the same principle adopted by means of the choir being cut off from the nave (into which it often intruded to the extent of some bays, as at Westminster Abbey) by a solid screen, provision being made for the increased monastic establishment in the eastern part of the church, while the laity were provided for in the western portion. It would seem that this monastic rule obtained in cities more in England than on the Continent, and that consequently English cathedrals have their eastern arms of the cross plan much longer than foreign ones; such a chancel as that of Carlisle, for instance, has no parallel abroad. Sometimes the choir advanced considerably into the nave, and at others the transepts of a cathedral, which are lateral modes of access to the altars, are doubled in the larger English cathedrals, as at York, in order to provide one for the monks as well as for the people. Such double transepts are unknown on the Continent. Even our modern village churches retain distinct peculiarities as compared with foreign ones, which are traceable to the long-perished Early British Architecture. We continually find in them chancel arches so small and narrow as to be quite inconvenient for modern use, and they are often now enlarged without consideration of the reason which dictated them. The truth is that their object, as in the case of the Irish towers, was for separating rather than exposing to each other the nave and the

chancel, and it will be found on examination that there was originally an altar westward of the dividing wall at one or both sides of its opening in the centre. Again English parish churches as a rule possess western towers, whereas foreign ones as a rule do not, and this is a peculiarity traceable to Early British Architecture in our case. Enough has now been said to show that Early British Architecture, if it have eluded our enquiry somewhat, has at least left among us the influence of its spirit, and that that spirit is such as to cause us to venerate its august, if shadowy, reminiscences of a still remoter ideal of the worship of the one true God.

After the reading of the paper, Mr Gough presented some views, chiefly of ancient Irish churches and English cathedrals, with a few Welsh illustrations, with the object of further elucidating the points marked out by Mr Seddon. One gentleman took a somewhat ungracious exception to the scarcity of Welsh views, and to the fact that Mr Seddon had not said as much as he could have wished about Welsh architecture. The meeting, however, failed to support the gentleman referred to, and on the proposal of Mr W. Cave Thomas, seconded by Mr Stephen Evans, accorded to Mr Seddon and Mr Gough a very cordial vote of thanks.

MR. PHILLIMORE ON THE WELSH TRIADS.

Continued (Jan. 5, 1887).

The last of the three Triads which mentions the battle of Arderydd gives us the name of one of the combatants not mentioned elsewhere as such. It is the Triad of the Three *Cosgordd addfwyn*, or "kindly retinues," otherwise called *Cosgordd adwy*, "retinues of the passes." The word *cosgordd*, *cosgor*, or *casgor* is generally translated escort; it meant a chief's following of some kind, as is shewn by the Cornish *dyn coscor*, translated clients, but I do not know what was the exact difference between the Welsh *cosgordd* and the Welsh *teulu* used in a military sense—the *teulu* certainly appears to have been the larger body of the two. One of these *cosgorddau addfwyn* was that of *Dreon* or *Dryan Lew*, (Dryan or perhaps Tryan the brave), the son of *Nudd Hael*, or the Liberal, at Rhodwydd Arderys as the place is here called. *Nudd Hael* was a prince of one of the chief families of Cumbria, whose genealogy is given along with that of others in the Cumbrian Genealogies of the 13th century. His name is supposed to be commemorated on a stone discovered in Yarrow, which certainly commemorates some members of the family (*Nudi Dumnogeni*) of Nudus Dumnogenus, which in modern Welsh would be *Nudd Dyfnien*, but of the last epithet the meaning is not clear. The epitaph then proceeds to say that in that grave lie the two sons of *Liberatis*. If the *Liberatis* (which of course means the same as the Welsh *hael*, "liberal,") of the last and the Nudus or Nudd of the first part of the inscription are meant for the same person, then we may well assume his identity with *Nudd Hael*, and fix the dominions of the latter as having been situated in the upper basin of the Tweed. We have little if any indication as to the district of Cumbria with which the family of *Elifer Cosgordd fawr* were connected, and with regard to *Gwenddoleu* and his father *Ceidio*, we are still more in the dark. He, indeed, seems to have entered early into the domain of Welsh Legend, for one Triad tells us of a (probably mythical) Welsh King of Deira and Bernicia (*Deifr a Bryneich*) who perpetrated one of the three praiseworthy slaughters (*tair madgyllafan*) by killing *Gwenddoleu*'s two birds which guarded his gold and silver, and devoured four men for their daily sustenance. This reminds one of the various Welsh Legends which are found from Carnarvonshire to Glamorgan, about huge ravens guarding secret treasures

n enchanted caves. I have said nothing about the well known poem which opens the Black Book of Carmarthen, and is in the form of a dialogue between Myrddin and Taliesin. The whole of this poem is generally considered as referring to the battle of Arderydd; but to me the composition appears to consist of two distinct parts not by the same author, as its first and last half are in different metres and styles. The last half certainly refers to this battle, for it mentions it under its name of Gwaith Arfderydd, and also alludes to the sons of Eliffr, who took part in it, and the ghosts of the slain who haunted the forest of Celyddon, and furnished the subject of so many poetical allusions in early Welsh literature. It tells us, however, nothing that we do not know from other sources. The first and apparently older half of this poem does not appear to refer to the same battle, for it mentions a landing of a host at Nefdwr, an old name for Alclud or Dumbarton, on the estuary of the Clyde, the ancient capital of the Cymry of the North, whilst Arfderydd is in the neighbourhood of the Solway Firth, and though it mentions several combatants, none of the names elsewhere associated with this battle occur there. If the Maelgwn, moreover, there mentioned, is meant to be Maelgwn Gwynedd, that great Prince had been dead 27 years when the battle of Arderydd was fought. I cannot refrain from noticing here the theory of Mr Skene that Rhydderch Hael, Maelgwn Gwynedd, and Aeddán, the well-known kings of Strathclyde, Gwynedd, and Dabiria respectively, were Gwenddoleu's opponents at the battle of Arderydd, and that it was a conflict of a religious character between a Christianizing and a Paganizing party. For this theory (which moreover requires us to suppose the prolongation of Maelgwn's life for 27 years after the date when his death is recorded in the *Annales Cambrie*) there is no real authority whatever. It is partly based (1) on the supposition that the legendary allusions to Gwenddoleu and his magic birds in the Triads imply that he was virtually a pagan. But I need hardly say that these allusions belong so much to the domain of legend that they cannot safely be used in support of any historical theory; (2) On the fact mentioned in the life of St. Kentigern that the saint was expelled from Cumbria by one King Morken (supposed to be identical with the Morgaunt or Morgan who slew Urien in Northumberland) and his family, but returned from North Wales where he had taken refuge on Rhydderch Hael obtaining the hegemony of Strathclyde, and subsequently lived at Glasgow under his patronage. This has led Mr Skene to imagine that the supremacy of Rhydderch (an undoubted historical fact) was virtually a triumph of a Christian over a Pagan party, and that the Battle of Arderydd was both the decisive event by which this supremacy was brought about, and the immediate cause of the return of St. Kentigern from Wales. Now as to this it may be said that though it is possible, nay probable, that much Paganism remained among the Welsh in the 6th century, it did not require a man to be Pagan to dislike the saints or rather missionaries of those early days. The enormous power which history shows these missionary bishops to have wielded over the semi-barbarous British, Irish, or Pictish Potentates, and their still more barbarous peoples would naturally cause them to be as redoubted by their enemies as courted by their friends. I need hardly remind a Welshman of the proverb "*Byr hoedlog digassog saint*" (short-lived is the enemy of the saints.) Nor is there any testimony in any but the least historical of all our authorities that Rhydderch Hael had anything to do either with Gwenddoleu or the battle of Arderydd. Of the long defensive war carried on between Urien

Rheged and the continually encroaching power of the Anglian Kings of Bernicia, the Triads tell us but little. The Old Welsh Chronicle informs us that this war consisted of two distinct campaigns. The first was carried on by Urien with three allied kings, Morgan, Rhydderch Hen (whom the oldest Welsh genealogies identify with the well known Rhydderch Hael), and Gwallog, of whom little is known but that his prominence in Welsh poetical tradition shows him to have been an important personage. Of Morgan I shall have occasion to speak very soon. The king against whom this campaign was carried on is shown by other authorities to have reigned from 567 to 574. Most of the campaigns therefore preceded the battle of Arderydd. The second campaign is said by the same authority to have been carried on against Theodoric (whom we know from other sources to have reigned from 580 to 587) by Urien and his sons with varying success. Urien had succeeded in besieging the Anglian host in the Island of Lindisfarne, called in Welsh and Irish *Ynys Medgodd* or perhaps *Meddgod*, when he was assassinated at the instigation of the Morgar previously mentioned, out of envy for his superior generalship. The words of the Latin original imply that Morgan and other chiefs or princes fought at Urien's side in this campaign, but under his leadership, though the fact is not specifically stated. The Triads have preserved the name of his assassin, Llongad Llawddifro, who is called for this act one of the three *gwythyr* (generally translated "angry ones," but which must rather mean here assassins or ruffians) of Britain. Another Triad alludes to this campaign when it says that one of the fettered retainers of Britain was that of Kthiwallon, son of Urien, when he fought with the English. The Triads of the Steeds incidentally mention two other sons of Urien—Owen (who is of course commemorated in Welsh poems, in one of which he is said to have been slain by Flamdwyn, supposed to be the Bernician King Theodoric), and Pasgen. I need hardly do more than allude to the vast importance which Urien and his son Owen assumed in the Arthurian Romances and other legends, such as the life of St. Kentigern, who is said to have been Owen's natural son; their prominence in legend can but have been based on a considerable degree of real historical importance. Besides Pasgen and Owen, a poem ascribed to Llywarch Hen (and which, whenever written, certainly relates to this campaign, and the death of Urien) also gives Elffin as the name of one of Urien's sons. Of another son, Rhun, we have historical mention. He is said, in the same chronicle in which the account of the wars under discussion has been preserved, to have assisted in the conversion of the Northumbrians, and what is more, the same authority says that his grand-daughter was one of the wives of the celebrated Oswy, King of Northumbria; a fact of which the historical significance (as bearing on the early relations of the ruling Angles, and the subject Welsh of Bernicia, in the middle of the seventh century) is apparent at a glance, but which has as far as I know been quite ignored by English or other historians. The poem above mentioned also gives Aber Lleu as the name of the spot where Urien was slain, the name Lleu is supposed to be preserved in the modern Low, the little rivulet which runs into the sea opposite Lindisfarne, also called the Linds in older times by the English, whence Lindisfarne was so called apparently to distinguish it from some neighbouring islands also bearing the name of Farne. This second war of Urien's has been necessarily spoken of immediately after the mention of the first, on account of the intimate connection of the two, but at some slight sacrifice of chronological system, for most if not all of this second campaign must have preceded the event of which I now proceed to speak.

Of the next occurrence recorded in the old *Annales* (which by the way do not mention Urien or his campaign), viz., the death of Gwrgi and Peredur in 580, the Triads give us some important particulars. They tell us that one of the three disloyal households or retinues (*trianiweir teulu*) was "that of Gwrgi and Peredur who deserted their lord (it should be their lords) at Caer Greu with their forces (in Welsh a *chyfoeth*), and they (i.e., Gwrgi and Peredur) fought the next day with Edaglin gawr (Eda glinwawr in the other version) and were both slain." Of this battle even less is known than of the battle of Arderydd and of its details nothing is known but what is told us here. As to Edaglin gawr or Eda glinwawr the person meant can hardly be other than the Eata Glinmawr (i.e. Eadlinmawr, Eada the big kneed) given by the little Welsh Chronicle so often quoted as the Welsh name by which Eata, a descendant of the Anglian Kings of Bernicia and father of Eogfrid, Bishop of York, who himself died in 756, was known. It is needless to point out that this Eata must have died more than 100 years after the battle of Caer Greu. The author of the Triad in its present form has therefore, unless there were two persons called Eadlinmawr, been guilty of a monstrous anachronism and probably has substituted the name for that of some one else with a similar name or epithet.

The name Caer Greu is not, I believe, mentioned elsewhere, but I am inclined to think it can be identified. The radical form of Greu must of course be Creu, which prior to the 12th century would have been regularly written C-r-o-u, pronounced Croü. This is a very rare name in Welsh topography (perhaps it occurs in Croydon Hill, on the borders of Exmoor), but there are places called Croy and Croy Hill on the line of the Northern Roman Wall between the Clyde and the Forth, close to which are the remains of two important *Caerai* or fortified Roman Stations (one of them on an abrupt eminence retaining the Celtic name of Bar Hill) and forming part of the chain of such stations originally built to defend the Wall, of which the best known was called Caerbentaloch, since Gaelicized into Kirkintulloch. I have not been able to find the name Croy elsewhere in the Cumbrian region.

This Peredur seems to have been the historic original of the legendary Peredur ab Efrog, who, under the name of Percival, plays so large a part in Romance. Of two persons who played a very prominent part in the history of the Cumbrian region at the end of the 6th and beginning of the 7th century, Aeddán, King of the Scots of Dabiriada, or Southern Argyllshire, a kingdom lying to the immediate west of the northernmost part of Cumbria, and Rhydderch Hael, the first historic king of the Cumbrian kingdom, whose centre was in Strathclyde, and whose capital was Alclud (now Dumbarton), the Triads tell us disappointingly little. From the oldest Welsh genealogies we know that Rhydderch did not belong to the main line of princes who reigned at Alclud from Ywen, living in 642, to Rhun ab Arthal, who succeeded to the throne in 872. That his father Tudwal (called Totall by Adamnan) ruled over a region on the Clyde we know from the fact that every Welsh document in which he is mentioned calls him Tudwal Tudglud "Tudwal of Clyde-land." But how Rhydderch himself acquired the pre-eminence over all the other chiefs of independent Cumbria which enabled him to make Alclud into its capital and Strathclyde into its central district, and that in such a way that both retained their pre-eminence until the final extinction of the last vestiges of Cumbrian independence, we do not know. Nor, though we are informed by an almost con-

temporary writer, Adamnan, in the life of St. Columba, that he died in his bed (doubtless a rare thing for any king to do in those troublous times), do we know the precise date of his death, or the name of his successor on the throne of Alclud, or whether it was his lack of issue or some other cause which placed on that throne the collateral branch which we find occupying it in 642. The life of St. Kentigern indeed informs us that he was succeeded by his son Constantine, but we have no mention elsewhere of such a prince; and that he died in the same year as St. Kentigern, but the date of the latter's death is variously given as 603, 612, and 614. Adamnan has indeed one most significant passage, the importance of which hardly seems to have been appreciated by Mr Skene or any other writer. It is related that Rhydderch sent a message to St. Columba to know whether he would be killed or not by his enemies. On the saint making enquiries about Rhydderch, his kingdom, and his people, of the messenger, the latter replied "Why do you ask me about that wretched man (misero), who can by no means know what hour he may be slain by his enemies?" Such words, if they have any meaning at all, can only indicate that Rhydderch's tenure of his throne was more than usually insecure. Perhaps there were two rival royal lines, to one of which he belonged, while the other was the one which we find on the throne thirty years after his death. He was, we know, to some extent contemporary with St. Columba, who died in 595, and with the Aeddán recently mentioned, who died in 607. I will now proceed to state what the Triads have to say about Aeddán and Rhydderch. The former is always called in Welsh literature *Aeddán Ffradog*, or Aeddán the Treacherous, but it is not in the least clear why this opprobrious appellation was conferred upon him. One of the Triads wanting in the "Triads of Arthur," and imperfect in the Red Book Triads (where however, a considerable space is left by the scribe, whose original was evidently partly illegible, with a view to the deficiency being supplied from another source), but occurring in a perfect form in the *Cwta Cyfarwydd*, written in 1445, mentions that Aeddán Ffradog made a hostile expedition to Alclud, the palace of Rhydderch Hael, and that when he departed from thence he did not leave behind him there a particle of food or drink or a single domestic animal (llwŷn) alive. None of the remarkable series of wars in which Aeddán engaged recorded in the various Irish Annals can be identified as having been waged against the Welsh of Strathclyde, while most of them can with certainty be identified as having been against Picts or Angles. All we can then say is that it is not impossible that this statement of the Triads may have some historical foundation, and that it may have been from some episode of this war, as recorded by Welsh tradition, that the epithet of *Ffradog* first originated. Welsh tradition made a singular genealogical mistake about the family of this Aeddán, which originated at least as early as the 13th century, and is thus unfortunately adopted in the Triads. The father of the historic Aeddán, an equally historic personage himself, was named *Gafran*, he was the son of *Domangwrt*, or Dyfnarth, and is mentioned in the Irish annals as having been defeated by the Picts in 560, and dying in the same year; his death is even recorded in the Old Welsh Annals (where he is rightly called "*Gafran filiús Dúngart*") under the year 558. But the Welsh documents of the 13th century, and later, make no mention of Gafran, son of Dyfnarth, and seldom if ever of Aeddán, son of Gafran, but invert the two last generations, and call Gafran the son of Aeddán! Nor is this all, for the Cumbrian genealogies of the 13th century go so far as to naturalize this supposititious Gafran, son of Aeddán, by

giving him a regular Welsh pedigree, which includes him among the various stocks descended from Dyfnwal Hen, and through him from Maxen Wledig. The last of these blunders probably had some connection with the Welsh tradition, at least as old as the 12th century, that represents Aeddan's mother to have been a Welsh princess, daughter to Brychan Brycheiniog. A third piece of confusion in the Welsh traditions is the extension of Aeddan's epithet of Fradog to Gafran, who is called Gafran Fradog in the late 13th century *Annales Cambriae* preserved in the Record Office, and likewise in the Cognati de Brychan preserved in a MS. of earlier date. It is not impossible that some of these blunders may have arisen from the confusion of some obscure Welsh Aeddan, for Aeddan was a fairly common name in Welsh—with the celebrated king of Dabiriada. Gafran ab Aeddan is mentioned in one of the Triads, where his *teulu* or retinue (a body which, it must be remembered, consisted of 2,100 men,) is said to have been one of the three faithful retinues. But as to the reason why it was so called the two old versions differ: one adds the words "pan fu y difangoll" ("at the time when the utter destruction took place"), while the other gives as the reason for the appellation, "a aethant i'r mor dros euh arglwydd,"—"who went to sea (or perhaps went into the sea, i.e., were drowned) for their lord's sake." Stephens ingeniously suggested that in the last of these versions Gafran is a mistake for Cynan, and that the reference is to the death of Cynan, one of Aeddan's many sons, mentioned in history, who is stated in the Irish Annals to have been drowned in a storm with his army, in 621, probably on his return from Ireland, where the forces of his father's kingdom of Dabiriada had fought a battle in the same year. If the "divangoll" of the other version refers to the same event, it is at least singular that so very strong and significant an expression should have been applied by a Welshman to a disaster in which people of the Welsh race seem to have had no part, unless we suppose that Cumbrian auxiliaries whom Irish history represents as assisting the Dabriads in some of their Irish wars of this period, were also involved in the catastrophe. But perhaps this version does not refer to the same event as the other one, but means by Gafran ab Aeddan to designate Aeddan ab Gafran, and refers to his fearful defeat at Dawstone in Liddelsdale, by Ethelfrith of Bernicia in 603, where, in the words of Bede, Aeddan came against Ethelfrith with an immense and powerful army, but was defeated, and fled from the battlefield with but a few followers. In this battle it has been generally assumed, though there is no direct evidence to that effect, that the Cumbrian Welsh fought as Aeddan's allies, and this is rendered very probable by the known fact that Ethelfrith, so says Bede, inflicted more defeats than any of his predecessors or successors on the Welsh, by whom indeed he was called Eddelfied Ffleisor or Ffleisog, Ethelfrith the ravager, and also by the circumstance that the battle was fought on Cumbrian territory, and that to reach the battlefield from Dabriada, Aeddan must have passed through the greater part of the Cumbrian kingdom. Whether the theory that the Britons took part in this battle is correct or not it need hardly be said that the result of so overwhelming a victory of the English must have affected the Welsh of Cumbria as much as it did the Scots of Dabriada, who, as Bede says, never afterwards (i.e., up to his own time upwards of a century later) ventured to lead an army against the Anglian nation. If then the expression "y difangoll" refers to this defeat, its appropriateness even when used by a Welshman will be evident.

(To be continued.)

MARCH 2, 1887.

NOTES.

ANCIENT TENURES OF LAND IN THE MARCHES OF WALES.—Reading Mr. A. N. Palmer's fascinating little work on "Ancient Tenures of Land in the Marches of North Wales," the other evening, it occurred to me to look at some old Latin Deeds in my possession relating to transfers of land in Montgomeryshire between 1550 and 1600. I annex a translation of a portion of one of them, which, read by the light that Mr Palmer's researches throw upon the subject, induces me to come to the conclusion that, if the attention of readers of *Bye-Gones* were attracted to it, it might be possible to identify, even yet, the fields—

- (a) Kaye'r Helig Vychan
- (b) Gwyrlothy-y-person
- (c) Maes y Clawdd
- (d) Maes Tan y Cay

They must have all been located in the Township of Rhandregynwyn, parish of Llandysilio, near Llanymynech, and I cannot but think, wherever they may be located, there would be found the common fields of the Township. I commend to those desirous of having a clear conception of what the Common fields of a Township implies, and of picking up the links of evidence between our present system of Land Tenure and the Welsh system, a perusal of Mr Palmer's work. The minute divisions of each holding are indicated by the parcel of land called "Yr Errw dalar," lying in the meadow, called Maes y Clawdd; no less than *five* parcels, separately owned, bounded it on one side, and its area is only one acre.

There are two or three points worthy of attention in connection with the extract. There are several measures of land mentioned

- 1st. a day's Math
- 2nd. a measure of Seed land
(2 Selions)
- 3rd. one hobbet of land
(one Selion)
- 4th. an acre.

The Latin word which I have translated "measure" is "*modus*"; a *modus* was a Roman dry measure equalling a *peck*.

Is it not likely that Rhandre-gynwyn should be *Rhandir-gynwyn*?

The Deed is dated 12th December, 1582, and is between

"Griffin ap Ieu'n ap Llewelyn of Randregynwyn, who for the sum of £6 6s. 8d. sold to his dear friend in Christ, Ievanni ap Richard of Domgay, several parcels and *seliones* of land situate in the township of Randregynwen, namely one parcel of meadow land, containing by estimation one day's math, lying in a meadow there called Kaye'r Helig Vychan, in breadth between the lands there belonging formerly to Robert Jones, Clerk, on the one part, and on the other of lands formerly belonging to Ievanni ap Lewelyn ap Guttyn Saye, and a meadow there called Gwyrlothy y person, in length extending from lands of the aforesaid Ievanni ap Richard as far as the lands of David Vaughan ap Richard and lands formerly belonging to the aforesaid Ievanni ap Llewelyn; Two *Seliones* of land containing by estimation a measure of seed land, lying in a meadow formerly called Maes-y-clawdd, in breadth be-

tween lands belonging to the aforesaid David Vaughan on the one side and lands formerly belonging to the aforesaid Ievanni ap Llewelyn on the other, and in length extending from lands formerly belonging to the aforesaid Ievanni ap Llewelyn as far as those formerly of Galfridus ap Thomas, deceased; one parcel of land called *Yr Errw dalar*, containing by estimation one acre, lying in the aforesaid meadow called *Maes-y-clawdd*, in breadth between lands belonging to the aforesaid David Vaughan on the one side, and lands of the aforesaid Ievanni ap Richard, David Vaughan, and Robert Jones, clerk, Griffin ap Ieu'n ap Llewelyn and David ap John ap Rees, on the other side, in length extending from lands formerly belonging to the aforesaid Galfridus ap Thomas to lands belonging formerly to the aforesaid Ievanni ap Llewelyn; and *One Selion* of land called *y talar mawr* containing by estimation (*unam Hobetta*) one hobbet of land lying in a field there called *Maes-tan y tay* (writing very indistinct—may be *Tan y-Cay* or *Tan a tuy*) in breadth between lands belonging to the aforesaid Galfridus, Ievanni ap Richard, David Vaughan, Edward Penryn, and Lewis ap David on the one side, and land belonging to the aforesaid Ievanni ap Richard on the other, and in length extending from land belonging to the aforesaid David Vaughan as far as lands formerly belonging to the aforesaid Ievanni ap Llewelyn, to have and to hold to the aforesaid Ievanni ap Richard his heirs and assigns, the aforesaid parcels and Seliones with all their rights, commodities, liberties, easements, &c., subject first to the rents and services due to the Lord of the fee as of right accustomed."

PEARMAIN.

QUERIES.

Y GROES AR DALGARTH.—I saw a deed the other day dated 10 January, 1601 [2]. The following is a rough translation of a portion of it (the original is in Latin):—

Francis Lewis of Daresforde, co. Kent, "Brickleare," son and heir of Lewis ap Ievan ap Morris, deceased, when living, of the parish of Trefeglwys, co. of Montgomery, in consideration of (amount not stated) paid by my beloved friend in Christ, Rees ap Jenkyn, quitclaimed and released to the aforesaid Rees, all his interest in a Messuage and Lands then in the occupation of the said Rees, situate in the Township of Dolgwen and Kilkerenydd, in the parish aforesaid, and lying between the Queen's Highway and a place called "Y Groes ar Dalgarth," over against a stream or rivulet called *Guden* and *Nant-y-travley*.

Can any correspondent, from the foregoing description of the boundaries of the Farm, suggest what was the name of it; or can any one tell something about "Y Groes ar Dalgarth"? Z.

London.

REPLIES.

ROWLANDS'S ANGLESEY (Feb. 23, 1887):—"Antiquitates Parochiales, from an unpublished MS. by the Rev. Henry Rowlands, Vicar of Llanidan, Anglesey, and author of *Mona Antiqua Restaurata*," is the title of a series of papers which began in the second number of *Arch. Cam.* (April, 1846), and were concluded in 1849. These are the papers referred to by the Rev. R. Williams in *Eminent Welshmen*. Ed.

FOOTBALL IN THE OLDEN TIME (Feb. 16, 1887). On making enquiry of aged people in two or three Cardiganshire towns, I have failed to obtain evidence respecting the playing of football on Shrove Tuesday.

Possibly Eb. referred to towns further south than Aberystwyth or Lampeter. All agreed in stating that the great football contests occurred on *Dydd Nadolig*—Christmas Day. Football, it appears, *was* football in those days; and as I put the question to men and women over whose heads eighty summers had passed, it seemed to have a magical effect on them. "Remember playing football?" said they, with bright faces and unusual sprightliness of voice, "Remember playing football on Christmas Day? Well, aye, to be sure; and I've kicked the ball hundreds of times." The question evidently recalled to them "the good old times when George the Fourth was King," times of simple fare and simple manners, when no railways invaded the solitude of their villages, when almost all the villagers were related to one another by blood or marriage, and when the schoolmaster and the newspaper were as unknown as differences of opinion in politics or even in religion. But though dozens could be found who had "kicked the ball on *Dydd Nadolig*" in their youth, and to whom the remembrance was a pleasure, few could describe the *modus operandi* of the game or give any incidents. In South Cardiganshire it seems that about eighty years ago the population, rich and poor, male and female, of opposing parishes, turned out on Christmas Day and indulged in the game of football with such vigour that it became little short of a serious fight. The parishioners of Cellan and Pencarreg were particularly bitter in their conflicts. Men threw off their coats and waistcoats and women their gowns, and sometimes their petticoats; and one of my informants said that at a football match on Christmas Day, in the parish of Llandyssul, a damsel whose attire was as scanty as the "cutty sark," seen by Tam O'Shanter in Alloway Kirk, secured victory for her parish by a magnificent kick that sent the ball across the river Teify, which at Llandyssul has no mean width. At Llanwenog, an extensive parish below Lampeter, the inhabitants for football purposes were divided into the Bros and the Blaenaus. My informant, a man over eighty, now an inmate of Lampeter Workhouse, gives the following particulars:—In North Wales the ball is called the *Bêl Droed*, and was made with a bladder covered with the *Cwd Tarw*. In South Wales it is called *Bêl Ddu*, and was usually made by the shoemaker of the parish, who appeared on the ground on Christmas Day with the ball under his arm, and said my informant, he took good care not to give it up until he got his money for making it. The Bros, it should be stated, occupied, as their name signifies, the high ground of the parish. They were nick-named "Paddy Bros," from a tradition that they were descendants from Irish people who settled on the hills in days long gone by. The Blaenaus occupied the lowlands, and, it may be presumed, were pure-bred Brythons. The more devout of the Bros and Blaenaus joined in the service at the parish church on Christmas morning. At any rate, the match did not begin until about mid-day, when the service was finished. Then the whole of the Bros and Blaenaus, rich and poor, male and female, assembled on the turnpike road which divided the highlands from the lowlands. The ball, having been redeemed from the crydd, it was thrown high in the air by a strong man, and when it fell Bros and Blaenaus scrambled for its

possession, and a quarter of an hour frequently elapsed before the ball was got out from among the struggling heap of human beings. Then if the Bros, by hook or by crook, could succeed in taking the ball up the mountain to their hamlet of Rhyddlan they won the day; while the Blaenau were successful if they got the ball to their end of the parish at New Court. The whole parish was the field of operations, and sometimes it would be dark before either party scored a victory. In the meantime many kicks would be given and taken, so that on the following day some of the competitors would be unable to walk, and sometimes a kick on the shins would lead the two men concerned to abandon the game until they had decided which was the better pugilist. On one occasion when the Bros were winning, a Blaenau attempted to rob them of their victory by stabbing the ball with a knife. There do not appear to have been any rules for the regulation of the game. "The art of fencing," said one of Macaulay's subjects, "was to hit," and the art of football playing in the olden time seems to have been to reach the goal. There seems, however, to have been some sort of understanding that the ball was not to be carried too long. My informant said he once carried it the width of two large fields pursued by his opponents, and then kicked it, as he thought he had carried it as far as he honourably could carry it without kicking. When once the goal was reached, the victory was celebrated by loud hurrahs and the firing of guns, and was not disturbed until the following Christmas Day. At the conclusion of the play, "the quiet ones," as the old man termed them, went home, but a large number went to the public house, where not a few made a night of it. This custom continued to be observed until about fifty years ago, when a venerable Nonconformist minister preached against it, and the people listened to him. Victory on Christmas Day, added the old man, was so highly esteemed by the whole country side, that a Bro or a Blaenau would as soon lose a cow from his cow-house, as the football from his portion of the parish.

Lampeter.

CARDI.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Rev. John Jones, M.A., the late rector of Llanaber, Barmouth, died on Thursday, aged 70.

The Rev John Davies, B.A., has been appointed vicar of Bryn Eglwys, parson, Lady Williams-Wynn.

The *British Architect* publishes a sketch by Mr H. D. Walton, of the Feathers Inn, Ludlow, an old English half timbered house.

The Ffrwd Colliery is now lighted up with the electric light, which has been introduced not only in the pits, but on the banks, in engine houses, mechanics' shops and offices.

At a meeting of the Liverpool Welsh National Society, held at the Royal Institution last week, a paper was read by Professor John Rhys, M.A., upon "A Comparative Study of the Arthurian Legend."

In the course of the excavations now being made in the Old Vicarage gardens, Wrexham, in connection with the Wrexham, Mold, and Connah's Quay Railway, at a depth of eight feet, and in a drift deposit were found some very beautiful specimens of encrinural stems (limestone), which were probably brought during the drift period from the Minera limestone ridge.

Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, G.C.B., died on Wednesday at Horndean, Hampshire. Sir Michael, who was born in the year 1802, was placed upon the retired list in 1870, but in 1876 was made Vice-Admiral of the United Kingdom. He served in the Baltic during the Crimean War, and at the time of his death was one of only two surviving Admirals who had commanded the British Fleet in action. The late Admiral, who for some years represented the Borough of Devonport in the House of Commons, was uncle of Mr M. S. Forster, Head Master of Oswestry School.

On Friday the Rev. J. Elias Hughes, M.A., read a paper on 'King Arthur and the Round Table' before the Society of Cambro-Britons at the Cannon-street Hotel, London. The President, Dr Morgan Davies, referred with great satisfaction to the fact that a Welsh Minister had undertaken the task of dealing with a national historical subject, and expressed the opinion that until more was done in the same direction, Wales would not attain its proper place in History and Literature, or assert with any success its distinctive nationality. Mr Hughes's paper was an excellent summary of most of what has been said and written about Arthur; and was greatly appreciated by the Society.

Mr Stanley Leighton having moved for a return showing the number of persons who voted as illiterates at the last election, a return has been issued. In the Northern or Newport division 238 illiterates voted, the total number polled being 7,341. Statistics as to the other Divisions of Shropshire are not given. In the eastern division of Denbigh, out of 7,046, two hundred and fifty-five; in Merioneth, out of 6,987, sixty-five; in Montgomery, out of 7,019, one hundred and seventy-nine. In the Carnarvon boroughs, out of 3,504, seventeen; in the Denbigh boroughs, out of 3,103, ninety-seven; in the Flint boroughs, out of 3,230, one hundred and forty-four; in the Montgomery district, out of 2,675, sixty-six. In the English counties, out of 1,026,411 votes, 22,375 were those of illiterates; in the counties of Wales, out of 72,653 votes, 1,346. In English boroughs, out of 1,231,283 votes, 13,941 were illiterates; in Welsh boroughs, out of 35,920, there were 925 illiterates.

Meetings of the Council and Court of Governors of Aberystwyth College were held at Lonsdale Chambers, London, on Tuesday, Feb. 22, when there were present Messrs Stephen Evans, Morgan Lloyd, Q.C., Henry Richard, M.P., Stuart Rendel, M.P., Lewis Morris, M.A., the Principal, A. C. Humphreys-Owen, T. Davies, Bootle, Professor Angus, Miss E. P. Hughes, Cambridge, W. Rowlands, Manchester, W. O. Elias, Liverpool, Dr R. D. Roberts, Captain Verney, R.N., J. Lloyd Morgan, B.A., and Miss Armstrong. Mr Henry Richard, M.P., presided. The Building Committee reported that tenders for the restoration of the College were received from the following firms, viz.:—Messrs Edward Davies and Son, Newtown, Montgomeryshire, £23,405; Messrs Alexander Bleakley and Son, Birkenhead, £20,505; Messrs S. and W. Pattinson, Sleaford, £20,500; Messrs W. Thornton and Sons, Liverpool, £20,100; Mr Griffith Griffiths, Cricieth, Carnarvonshire, £19,952; Mr Charles Gray Hill, Coventry, £19,950; Messrs Treasure and Son, Shrewsbury, £19,600; Messrs Dove Brothers, Islington, N., £19,255; Messrs P. Horsman and Co., Wolverhampton, £18,945; Messrs J. Parnell and Son, Rugby, £18,878; Mr Clerke Burton, Cardiff, £18,347; Messrs S. Belham and Co., Buckingham Palace-road, S.W., £17,900; and on the recommendation of the Council the tender of Messrs S. Belham and Co. was accepted by the Court of Governors. The Council appointed Mr C. H. Herford, M.A. Camb., B.A. Lon., lecturer at Owens College, Man-

chester, to succeed Professor Maccallum in the chair of English Language and Literature. Mr Herford is the author of "Studies in the Literary Relations of England and Germany in the 16th century," by which he, according to Professor Henry Morley, "laid the foundations of a European reputation." He also received strong testimonials from Professor Ward, of Manchester, Mr Leslie Stephen, under whose editorship he contributed to the *Cornhill*, Professor Ten Brink, of Strasburg, and others. It will be remembered that Mr David Davies, of Llandinam, not long ago resigned the office of Treasurer of the College. Although pressed to re-consider his decision Mr Davies adhered to his resolution, and the Council whilst regretting the fact, unanimously appointed Mr Stuart Rendel as joint treasurer with Mr Stephen Evans.

ERECTION OF A NEW SCREEN AT THE PARISH CHURCH, OSWESTRY.—A new screen, constructed by Messrs J. Jones and Sons, Church-street, from designs by Mr Arthur Street, has been placed at the south door of St. Oswald's Church. The screen is a piece of workmanship in Dantzic oak, and is of early English design. We understand that it is not yet completed.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The Marquis of Bute has given £1,000 towards the establishment of a National Institute for Wales for the advancement of science, art, and learning, as a Jubilee Memorial. The scheme is expected to cost £17,000.

SHREWSBURY.

At a public meeting held in the Guildhall, Shrewsbury, on Thursday, the Mayor (Mr G. Butler Lloyd), presiding, it was agreed to spend a sum not exceeding £700 in feasting the poor and school children, and to devote the remainder of the fund to the erection of public swimming baths and gymnasium. The suggested Volunteer practice ground was thus abandoned.

MARCH 9, 1887.

NOTES.

FOLK LORE.—SINGING HEARD BEFORE DEATH.—I have in Carnarvonshire and Denbighshire been told that the dying have stated that they heard sweet voices singing in the air, and they have called the attention of the watchers to the angelic sounds and requested perfect silence so as not to lose a single note of the heavenly song. A young lad, whom I knew, an intelligent, promising child, whilst lying on his death-bed, told his mother that he heard a bird beautifully warbling outside the house, and apparently, in rapture, he listened to the bird's notes. His mother told me of this, and she stated further, that she had herself on three different occasions, previously to her eldest daughter's death, in the middle of the night, distinctly heard singing of the most lovely kind, coming, as she thought, from the other side the river, her home being close to a river. She went to the window and opened it, but the singing immediately ceased, and she failed to see anyone on the spot where she had imagined the singing came from. My informant also told me that she was not the only one that had heard this lovely singing before a death. She gave me the name of a sick nurse who, before the death of a person, whose name was also given me, heard three times the most beautiful singing just outside the

house of sickness. She also looked out into the night, but failed to see anyone. This singing has never been heard excepting in cases of death, and it is a happy omen for the dying, and a harbinger of peace and resignation for the living. E.O.

Denbighshire.

QUERIES.

OLD WELSH SAYING.—I noticed the following old Welsh saying in the *University College of Wales Magazine*—"I Wlad yr Haf i fedd rhedyn"; and I have since ascertained that the saying is frequently used in the valley east of Cader Idris. The words are plain enough; but can any of your readers supply the meaning of the sentence? OLWYN.

THE CAE CYRIOG MSS.—Can any reader of the *Bye-Gones* give any information as to a MS. pedigree entitled the Cae Cyriog MSS. that is continually referred to in the "Mont: Collec.:" "Arch: Camb.:" "Powys Fadog," &c., &c. What is its history, in whose possession is it, and is it considered an authority upon genealogy? BLEDDYN.

THE BLIND WELSH HARPER OF ALTON TOWERS.—Mr. Edward Kemp of Birkenhead Park, in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* of February 26th, says—"It is more than forty years since I visited Alton Towers. I was staying for a fortnight with Mr Paxton, at Chatsworth, and took the opportunity of going to notable places in Derbyshire and its vicinity. During a trip to Dove Dale and Ilam Hall, I passed on to Wootton and Alton Towers, at which latter place I had the advantage of being chaperoned by Mr. Forsyth, then in his prime. I well remember seeing the interesting old blind harper, for whom the 'harper's cottage' was built by the Earl, and hearing him play for me, at Mr. Forsyth's request, 'Ye banks and braes o' bonny Doon' in the hall of the mansion. To the best of my memory, this hall was about 40 feet square, and carried up into a lofty tower lined with stone; and of course it was very resonant, and singularly fitted for giving full effect to a performance on the harp. Mr. Forsyth told me a very pretty story as to the history of this blind harper, which may be worth repeating. His lordship chanced to be travelling in Wales, where he accidentally met with the harper, and being impressed with his playing, and possibly attracted by his suave manner, he offered him an appointment as harpist at Alton Towers. It was a surprise to him to find this offer promptly declined. After further inquiries, however, he learned that the obstacle to acceptance was that the harpist had an aged mother entirely dependent on his professional skill, and that he was resolved never to leave her. Naturally, the generous Earl at once proposed to overcome this difficulty by taking both mother and son under his protection, and building a cottage specially in his grounds for their residence; and this proffer, it is hardly necessary to add, was gratefully responded to, and the harper became the cherished pensioner of the Earl, and the occupant of the 'harper's cottage.' Mr. Forsyth has gone to 'the great majority,' or he could have confirmed this tale. My remembrance of it, however, is perfectly clear, and it is a pleasant reminder of the relations which sometimes exist between members of the aristocracy and those

whom they incline to favour." Can any correspondent give the name of the harper referred to, and say from what part of Wales he came, and also how long ago it is since the event recorded happened? BONWM.

REPLIES.

COCKSHUTT (Feb. 16, 23, 1887).—I must apologise to THE VICAR OF COCKSHOT for hesitating to accept his derivation of the word. Let me try to follow him. "Cock," he says, "is a diminutive like kin, et, and en." So far so good. I agree with him that Wilcock or Wilcox is little Will. In the same way Luckcock, Salcock, Pollock, Baldock, Allcock, are "little Luke," "little Saul," "little Paul," "little Baldwin," and "little Hal or Harry." I doubt, however, whether "cock," any more than kin, et, and en, would signify "little" except as a termination. Cock-robin is not a little robin, but a bold bird of a masculine type. Jenny wren, on the other hand, is a shy bird of a feminine type. So the old distich :—

Cock robin and Jenny wren
God Almighty's cock and hen.

Nor is a cock horse a little horse. To ride a cock-horse, for the expression is adverbial, is to ride in triumph. Thus Prior writes—

Alma, they strenuously maintain,
Sits cockhorse on her throne the brain.

Nor is cock-boat a little boat. It is evidently a shortened form of cockle-boat. The word is used at full length by Beaumont and Fletcher—

'This pink, this painted foist, this cockle-boat,
To hang her fights out, and defie me, friends,
A well known man of war.

The Tamer Tam'd, Act ii., Sc. 3.

Nor is cock-loft necessarily a little loft. The Celtic Cok, elevatus, caput, is the nearest approach we can make to the prefix. With Cok compare cop or top, as in coping or coping, the upper tier of masonry that covers a wall. To pass to the names of men or places. Cockburn appears on the face of it to resemble Cocksbrook in Herefordshire. Cockett I know nothing about, but it may be a piece of tautology for aught I know. Cocker-mouth is the town at the mouth of the river Cocker. Cockfield is probably shortened from Cockle-field. At any rate we have Cockle-park, a township four miles from Morpeth. If "Cock" in Cock-shutt meant "little" I should have expected it to have been spelt "Cox." Mr Cox, according to some authorities, means Mr Little, Mr Coxhead Mr Littlehead (in contradistinction, I presume, to Mr Greathead), and Mr Coxwell Mr Littlewell. "Cock" in Cockshutt, or Cockshot, however, cannot mean "little." The s in the middle is decisive as to that. Sholt, or Shot, or Shut is not an old English word for a wood; the old English word for a coppice is Holt, or Hot, or Hut. The letter l in Holt is elided, as often happens, for the sake of euphony. Aldershot, Oakshot, Bagshot, mean respectively alders' wood, oaks' wood, and badgers' wood, not the alder wood, the oak wood, and the badger wood. Cockshot would therefore mean cocks' wood. Is the reference to domestic cocks? Quite possibly. These birds were expected to forage for themselves in old days wherever they chose. We have

Cockley Hill, near Thenford, co. Northampton; we have a Henley in several counties, and there is a Cockbank in Staffordshire. Quite possibly, too, cocks may have meant woodcocks. Shakespeare, in Richard III. says—

Surrey and himself
Much about cockshut time from troop to troop
Went through the army.

What was this time? Was it the time when poultry were driven home to roost? Or was it the twilight time, when woodcocks were taken in a net? Opinions differ. But beyond all doubt cocks mean cocks of some kind. We have Cocksheath, east of Skenfrith, co. Monmouth. That word does not signify the little sheath. Not long ago I saw in this newspaper that the Hawkeshutt Farm was to let. Here we have Hawkesholt, that is to say, hawks' wood, exactly corresponding to Cockshot.

A. T. JEBB.

There is another feasible meaning, and an interesting one, illustrating an old English custom, pastime and sport of bye-gone days. Cockshutt time meant twilight, and not only the time of day fowls usually go to roost. The cockshutt was also a large net stretched across a glade, and so suspended upon poles as easily to be drawn together, and was employed to catch woodcocks. These nets were chiefly used in the dusk of the evening, when woodcocks take wing to go and get water, flying generally low, and when they find any thoroughfare through a wood or range of trees they venture through. The artificial glades made for them to pass through were called cockroads. See Cowden Clarke's annotations to Shakespeare, King Richard III., Act V., Scene III. I take this opportunity to thank the clerks of the peace of the border counties for sending me the *old* and now useless lists of persons entitled to vote for members of Parliament, 1886, as I am thus furnished gratis with hundreds of names of farms, townships, places, as a basis for investigation of roots of words of the highest historical interest. Some of the names in Wales do more, and throw a glimmering light into the darkness of prehistoric periods.

JOHN CEIRIOG-HUGHES.

Caersws.

FOOTBALL IN THE OLDEN TIME (March 2, 1887).—With reference to the interesting reply by CARDI on football as played in South Cardiganshire on Christmas Day, about eighty years ago, I would wish to ask him to be so good as to try to obtain further evidence from old people in the locality of Llanwenog as to the division of the players into *Bros* and *Blaenau*. CARDI's ingenious attempt to connect the division of the inhabitants into *Bros* and *Blaenau* for football purposes with racial distinctions I am afraid cannot be proved, unless the statement that "the *Bros*, it should be stated, occupied, as their name signifies, the high ground of the parish," and "the *Blaenau* occupied the lowlands" should be reversed; for the Welsh word *Bro* signifies the lowlands, and *Blaenau* the highlands. For instance, "Bro Morganwg" is the lower part of Glamorganshire extending along the coast. The word *bro* is also heard in everyday use in the proverbial expression "Bryn a Bro"—"Hill and dale;" whilst *Blaenau*, as in *Blaenau Ffestiniog*, means the upper part of Ffestiniog. That CARDI's informant may have been mistaken in applying

the appellation "Paddy Bros" to the hillmen instead of to the men of the lowlands is not unlikely; therefore it is very desirable that further information should be elicited from other aged inhabitants of the district.

BONWM.

CURRENT NOTES.

Bletterston Church near Narberth, which has a Norman doorway, has been re-opened by the Bishop of St. David's after restoration.

The Provisional Council of the Celtic League will meet in London shortly to adopt a constitution. The object of the League is to unite the Irish, Welsh, and Highland peoples on matters upon which they have common interests. Mr Stuart Glennie, of the Athenæum Club, is the secretary of the League.

It is only the very oldest inhabitants of Chester that can remember a confirmation at the Cathedral, but Bishop Stubbs inaugurated a new departure by holding one last week, when 360 young people, principally from the churches in and about Chester, were confirmed by his lordship in the presence of a very large congregation.

An interesting paper was lately read before the Cambrian Society of South Wales and Monmouthshire by Mr Ivor James, on "The Welsh Language in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries." Mr James prefaced his paper by saying he had been greatly interested by what to him was the discovery that in the Civil Wars neither the Royalists nor the Parliamentary leaders communicated with the Welsh people through the medium of their native tongue, notwithstanding that the great political conflict of the seventeenth century was waged almost as much by the pen as by the sword. He was not aware of a single political leader, even when Welshmen appealed to Welshmen, who in the time of the Civil Wars wrote in Welsh with the exception of Morgan Lloyd, of Wrexham, and his political pamphlet was not published until the year of the establishment of the Protectorate, 1653. They had evidence of a systematic attempt to destroy the Welsh language as the ordinary speech of the people. The result appeared to have been that the language to a great extent died out. Mr James came to the conclusion that we owed the preservation of the Welsh language to two great movements—the Reformation on the one hand, and the Civil Wars on the other.

THE LATE MR JOSEPH ST. JOHN YATES.—Mr Joseph St. John Yates of Welbank, Sandbach, formerly judge of County Courts (Circuit No. 9, including Whitchurch), died on Wednesday, aged 79.

A CURIOUS DISCOVERY.—Mr Josiah Jones, builder, of Ruyton-Towns, was engaged at some work at Wyke, and was in need of some pieces of oak. A butt of good English oak was found 10 in. in diameter. It was cross-cut at both ends, and found perfectly sound, but when cutting it through the centre lengthwise, about half way along, about 100 or more acorns, in a fair state of preservation, were found embedded in the very centre, the only detriment to the wood being the little indentation they made.

APPOINTMENT OF SHERIFFS.—At a Court held at Windsor on Monday, her Majesty the Queen in Council appointed the following among other sheriffs for the present year:—Cheshire.—James Tomkinson, of Willington Hall, Tarporley, Shropshire.—Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart, of Rorrington Lodge, Chirbury, Denbighshire.—Henry Davies Pochin, of Bodnant Hall, Eglwysbach, Flintshire.—Thomas Bate, of Kelsterton, Merionethshire.—Colonel Edward Evans-Lloyd, of Moely-Garnedd, Bala, Montgomeryshire.—Charles Whitley Owen, of Fronfraith,

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

At the Newtown and Llanidloes Highway Board yesterday (Tuesday), the chairman, Mr R. Woosnam, said that at the meeting at Welshpool the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of Boards of Guardians and Highway Boards were included in the list of the committee for the carrying out of the preparations for the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. There appeared to be a misconception in some quarters that the Imperial Institute was being got up by Government, and the proposal was not altogether favourably received. He wished people to understand that the Imperial Institute was for their own good, and not for the Queen's. He hoped that they would all take collecting cards, and collect in their own district. It must be understood that the supporting of the Imperial Institute was not in any way to interfere with any local celebrations or any other mode in which they might wish to testify their love to their Queen on this occasion.—Mr Hare warmly supported the Imperial Institute.—After remarks by Mr John Lewis and Mr David Jones, Mr Hare proposed, and the Chairman seconded, "That this Board cordially agree in the general feeling of mutual congratulation, as well as thankfulness, for the blessings that we have enjoyed during her Majesty's reign, now approaching the completion of its 50th year, and suggests that such feeling may be suitably expressed by contributing to the Imperial Institute."—Mr Edward Jones proposed an amendment that they should take no action whatever.—This was seconded by Mr John Lewis, and carried by 6 votes to 5.

THE CAMBRO-BRITONS SOCIETY.

On Friday evening Mr Thomas Ellis, M.P., read a paper before the Society of Cambro-Britons at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, on 'The scope of Welsh National Life.' Wales, he observed, was yearning after better things. Her great need was the moral leverage of reform. Foremost was the consciousness of distinct nationality which made itself felt in many directions, not least in the various forms of literature. The growth of popular literature, imbued and inspired by the national thought and aims of Wales, would work incalculable good in promoting unity and wholeness of national life. Such a literature would fuse differences and opposing elements in politics and religion, and would make for that unity without which there is no true nation. This would inspire Wales anew with the power of sacrifice, the true fountain head of national as of individual nobleness. He was of opinion that the national problem of education, already helped so largely by the self-sacrifice of the Welsh people in connection with Aberystwyth College, would be further assisted by a spontaneous effort and sacrifice on their part in connection with intermediate education. It would, amongst other things, help Wales to demand effective control of its national education. Welshmen should realise how vital is the connection between education and self-government, and how necessary it is for the Welsh people to labour and sacrifice for their attainment. A discussion followed the reading of the paper, in which the majority of the speakers spoke strongly in favour of administrative centres for Wales, especially in matters of religion and education.

THE LATE ARCHDEACON ALLEN.

(Feb. 2, 1887.)

Truth has published a letter from the Rev. W. Acton of Wicklewood Vicarage, Wymondham, Norfolk, in reference to the statement in one of the Lichfield Diocesan magazines that the late Archdeacon Allen was the original of Major

Dobbin in *Vanity Fair*. The following is an extract from the letter:—"You say, 'It would be interesting to know where and when he (Archdeacon Allen) was acquainted with Thackeray.' I can supply you with the information you desire, and from the Archdeacon's own mouth. They were at college together—I believe, but am not sure, that it was at Trinity, Cambridge. John Allen was one of those friends whose rooms Thackeray used to frequent. He said that Thackeray—an idle man—would drop in, begin to talk and chatter, much after the style of *Vanity Fair* and 'Pendennis,' and all the time would be drawing on any paper or book that he could lay hold of, and, as the Archdeacon said, would leave £5 worth of sketches behind him. The Archdeacon showed me an old notebook containing a dozen or twenty of his sketches—one a most powerful sketch of Irvine the preacher, four or five illustrations of some drama that was in vogue at that time, and a sketch, entitled 'John Allen, 1860' (or some such date, 20 or 30 years after the real date of the sketch). It was an exact likeness of the Archdeacon's eldest son, and represented J. Allen with an amused expression of countenance, a smoking-cap on his head, and a long pipe in his mouth. The great joke of this sketch was that the Archdeacon, at the time that I saw most of him (about 1850), strongly disapproved of smoking. As to the Archdeacon being the original of 'Major Dobbin,' I can only say that the outline of Dobbin's face and figure was an exact representation of the Archdeacon's, but the expression of the countenance did not seem so exact; that, however, may have arisen from Thackeray's having seen little of Allen after their college acquaintance; or from the difference that ought to be expected between a soldier and a clergyman."

THE MOST HONOURABLE AND LOYAL SOCIETY OF ANTIENT BRITONS.

The Most Honourable and Loyal Society of Antient Britons celebrated its 172nd anniversary on St. David's Day. The usual service was held in the morning at the Parish Church at Ashford, the preacher for the day being the Rev Watkin Williams of Bodelwyddan. The annual dinner was held for the first time at the Holborn Restaurant, under the Presidency of Sir Love Jones Parry, of Madryn Castle, Carnarvonshire. The company at this year's Festival included the Earl of Powis and Mr Stanley Leighton, M.P. (two of the faithfulest friends of the S.A.B.), Sir George Elliot, Bart., M.P., Mr J. C. Parkinson, Mr R. Pughe-Jones, the Rev F. C. Williamson, M.A., the Rev J. D. Williams, Bottisham Vicarage, formerly head master of Christ Church, Brecon, the Rev J. Studholme Brownrigg, one of the vice-treasurers of the Society, the Rev Evan Jones, Dr Richard Morris, Dr J. Thomas Jones, &c. Mr Charles W. Jones, to whose efforts the successful position of the Welsh Girls' School, as regards the number of students, is largely due, was absent through indisposition.—After dinner the Chairman proposed the usual loyal toasts, which were duly honoured.—Lord Powis proposed the health of the President, who was 'descended from a long line of Welsh ancestors, well and honourably known in connection with the most opulent county in Gwynedd.'—Sir Love Jones-Parry acknowledged the toast, and proposed that of 'The Most Honourable and Loyal Society of Antient Britons,' with which he coupled the name of the Vice Treasurer, the Rev Mr Brownrigg.—As one who has very much to do with the management of the Ashford School, Mr Brownrigg very naturally defended the Society's position with regard to that establishment.—Mr Stanley Leighton, M.P., proposed the

toast of 'The Vice-Presidents and Stewards of the day,' coupling it with the names of Sir George Elliot and Dr Richard Morris.—Sir George Elliot spoke with much regret of the falling off in the Society of Ancient Britons, and the very small progress made in connection with its institution. He thought that an enlargement of scope and a better system of organization would place the Charity on a much better footing, and he for one would gladly assist in bringing such a reform about.—Dr Richard Morris, a distinguished member of the Philological Society, spoke of the improving results of Celtic influences on the English race.—The Rev Watkin Williams responded to the toast of the 'Preacher of the Anniversary Sermon.'—At this juncture it was incidentally mentioned that Mr Williams, a son of the late headmaster of Brecon, who was Craven Scholar in 1885, Chancellor's Medallist in 1886, was this year the Senior Classic of the University.—Mr J. C. Parkinson proposed the toast of 'The Welsh National Societies,' and humorously referred to his admission some two years ago to the mystic circle of Welsh Bards, a distinction which gained him not long ago a warm recognition from the Welsh of the Rocky Mountains.—Dr Isambard Owen replied to the toast, and dwelt on the valuable work done for the Principality through the agency of the Society for Utilising the Welsh Language, the Society for the Promotion of the Higher Education of Girls in Wales, the National Eisteddfod Association, the Cymmrodorion, and other kindred Societies.—With the toast of 'The Ladies,' proposed by Mr W. Lloyd Jones, and acknowledged by Mr Hall, the proceedings came to a close.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

On Thursday evening, February 24th, Mr Howel W. Lloyd, M.A., whose contributions to *Bye-Gones* are well-known to the readers of that column, read a paper before the Cymmrodorion Society consisting of 'Notes on the life of St. David.' In the absence of Mr Stephen Evans, the chair was occupied by Dr. Isambard Owen, M.A. As the paper will very shortly appear in full in *Y Cymmrodor*, we will content ourselves with a short summary of its principal points. The time when St. David lived belongs perhaps to the most obscure period of the history of this country. It is therefore very difficult, if not impossible, to fix the date of his birth, or his death. His biographers and all the ancient documents concerning him agree that he was a person of noble birth. In this connection the term *Gwledig* attached to the name of Cunedda (the father of Ceredig, whose son Sandde was the father of S. David), was pointed out, on the authority of Professor Rhys, as being applied only to persons of royal blood, and persons possessing the highest authority. Tradition states that the sons of Cunedda, driven westward by the Picts, expelled from thence the Gwyddyl, Ceredig becoming master of the country, since called after him Ceredigion, now Cardigan. Hence it is natural to expect that we should find in that region or its borders the birthplace of St. David. This was in Dyfed or Dimetia. Biographers agree that his birth was predicted by St. Patrick to whom a chapel dedicated still exists in Rhôs near St. David's where it is said the prediction was made. His religious education was completed by St. Paulinus (Pawl Hên) who had a school or monastery at Ty Gwyn ar Daf, now Whitland in Carmarthenshire. On quitting St. Paulinus he is said to have undertaken a distant journey during which he established no fewer than twelve monasteries. Reference to this journey is probably to be found in the Welsh Triad where Dewi, Teilo, and Padarn, are named as the three gwesteion gwynfydedig (blessed visitors) of the Isle of Britain. The story as to the trouble caused by a chieftain of the

Gwyddyl called Boya and the miraculous way in which it was overcome was referred to as supporting the tradition that portions of South Wales were occupied at that time by Gwyddyl, perhaps invaders from Ireland, perhaps the remnant of a race who preceded the Cymry in the occupation of this island. The life at the monastery built by St. David on land given by Boya was fully described by Mr Lloyd on the authority of Rice-marchus, and will be found to be both quaint and edifying. The traditional visit of the Saint to Jerusalem, as related by the same biographer, was also referred to. This was followed by a record of the Saint's share in the suppression of the Pelagian heresy, and a short description of the closing years of his life. Ricemarchus was himself a successor of St. David in the see of Menevia, of which he was bishop in 1088. His life of the Saint cannot therefore be dated earlier than the 11th century, some 500 years after the events took place which it professes to record. He states that the life is but a compendium gathered together from much larger materials, which he found scattered in ancient writings. Pity, said the lecturer, that he did not state precisely what these writings were, who their authors, and what their date; pity, too, that the acts of the councils held by St. David, 'written by his own hand,' and extant in the 11th century, have not been preserved to us. Besides this 'Life' by Ricemarchus, the original MS. of which has been printed in the 'Lives of the Cambro-British Saints' (Welsh MSS. Society) from the original copy in his handwriting in the British Museum, there is another by his contemporary, Giraldus, one by John of Teignmouth, one by Leland, and one in Welsh, of the 15th century. All these appear to agree in the main facts, with some variations of colouring and detail, especially in relation to accounts of miraculous events, which would seem to rest partly on popular tradition, and partly embellished by the style or colouring of the writers, who, it must be remembered, belonged to an uncritical age, and were indisposed to subject to a rigid examination things which they had heard or read, which, to their simple imaginations, tended to the glorification of their hero, or to the edification of their readers. Besides the above biographies there are some scanty notices of St. David in "The Antiquities of Glastonbury," by William of Malmesbury, and his book upon Bishops, and also in a Chronicle of St. David's entitled "Annales Menevensis." Lastly, there is printed in the Myvyrian Archæology a curious poem, written by Gwynfardd Brycheiniog, in the 12th century, in which several churches are named as dedicated to St. David, and as possessing some of his relics. Speaking of the custom of wearing a leek on St. David's Day, Mr Lloyd observed that it had not yet been determined with certainty whether any connection existed between the custom and the Saint himself. He thought probably there was none, and mentioned incidentally that the plant thus worn was not the ordinary garden leek, but one which is found growing wild in great quantity in certain localities. In the course of the ensuing discussion he referred one of the speakers for further information on this point to *Bye-Gones*, whence he had taken the statement.—The Chairman briefly referred to some of the problems presented by the historical period under discussion.—A vote of thanks, moved by Mr Marchant Williams, was accorded to Mr Lloyd for his interesting Notes.

MARCH 16, 1887.

NOTES.

THE POPE.—PAYMENTS TO HIM BY WELSH BISHOPS.—Among the MSS. preserved at Westminster Abbey (Press 7, shelf 2, parcel 53) No. 2, dated

13 December, 1297, is an acknowledgment by the Bishop of St. David's of the return of £200, deposited with the Treasurer of the Abbot, &c., of Westminster, because no London merchant or other person could be found to transmit the same to the Pope.—*His. MSS. Com. Report*, 4 App., p. 138. Z.

QUERIES.

ST. DAVID'S CATHEDRAL.—I have heard it stated that the Queen is a Canon of St. David's Cathedral. Is this a fact? QUERIST.

Cardigan.

SALESBURY OF RUG.—Yorke (*Royal Tribes of Wales*, p. 64) says that Glyndyfrdwy was then (1799) the possession of Edward Williams Vaughan Salesbury, Esq., second son of Sir Robert Howel Vaughan of Nannau. He was a Colonel in the Guards, and died in or about 1807. Did he leave issue, or who succeeded him in the estate; and who is now the owner of it?

QUERY.

GEORGE HERBERT.—I am anxious to ascertain what the sinecure was which James the First, about 1623, conferred upon George Herbert, while still a layman and Public Orator of the University of Cambridge. This sinecure seems to have been in Wales. Isaac Walton supposes that it "fell into his Majesty's disposal at the death of the Bishop of St. Asaph"; and he asserts positively that it was "the same which Queen Elizabeth had given to her favourite Sir Philip Sidney, and valued to be worth a hundred and twenty pounds per annum" (*Life of George Herbert*). This account of the transaction cannot be correct. Sir Philip Sidney, when a young boy, and before he became the favourite of Elizabeth, held the sinecure Rectory of Whitford for about a year. Browne Willis says that he was deprived. But neither Bishop Parry, who died in 1623, nor George Herbert, who Walton thinks succeeded to the Bishop, appears in the list of Rectors. W.T.P.

REPLIES.

Y GROES AR DALGARTH (March 2, 1887).—The message referred to in the old deed quoted by "Z" would probably be either *Glangwden* or *Dolgwen*, in Trefeglwys parish. The lands in 1601 probably joined those of Talgarth, then the residence of Edward Lloyd, Gent., a descendant of Sir Griffith Vaughan, Knight, and a man of some position. There is neither trace nor tradition at the present day, I believe, of "Y Groes ar Dalgarth" (The Cross on Talgarth.) R.W.

OLD WELSH SAYING (Mar. 9, 1887).—In reference to the expression, "I Wlad yr Haf (Somersetshire) i fedd rhedyn," I have to state that from enquiries I find that it is used in this district in connection with questions as to the whereabouts of worthless persons. There is an idea that the land in Somersetshire is too rich to produce many ferns, so that the person alluded to could not possibly have very much to do wherever he was.

Llanfihangel-y-Pennant.

ABERGANOLWYN.

THE MYDDELTONS OF LLANSILIN (Jan. 12, 26, Feb. 23, 1887).—LLYWARCH HEN is quite right in stating that Foulk Myddelton of Plasnewydd was suc-

ceeded by his son Richard, who was followed by two more of the same name in succession. The first Richard married Anne, daughter and co-heiress of Andrew Meredith of Glantanat, in the parish of Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, Esq., and by her had, among other issue, a daughter Anne Myddelton, who died in 1676, and it was she who left a legacy to the parish of Llansilin. She describes herself as of Farme, in the county of Flint, spinster, and her bequest of £42 was "for the putting and settling of Poore Children in the Parish of Llansilin, in the county of Denbigh, apprentices." The last Richard Myddelton of Plasnewydd was twice married; firstly, to Dorothy, daughter of Eubule Thelwall, Councillor-at-Law; and, secondly, to Barbara, daughter of John Wynn of Melay, Esq., by neither of whom had he issue. He died in 1700, leaving Elizabeth his sister his heiress, who married Thomas Meredith of Pentrebychan.

12, Albion Grove, W. M. MYDDELTON.
Stoke Newington, N.

BLAEN-Y-GLYN (Feb. 23, 1887).—The Blaen-y-Glyn "in Montgomeryshire," referred to in Dr John Evans's Nonconformist Statistics, may have been either a place of that name in Llandinam, as surmised by "T.H.J.," or another in Trefeglwys. There are very old Baptist congregations in the neighbourhood of each—namely, Beulah and Styalittle—but I rather incline to the opinion that the Llandinam Blaen-y-Glyn was the one referred to. I think, however, that the Blaen-y-Glyn named by Rees at which a Calvinistic Methodist "Association" was held July 3, 1745, was neither of these, but a place somewhere in South Wales. All important meetings of the Methodists in the neighbourhood of Llandinam were then held at *Tyddyn*, in that parish, and an "Association" was held at that place on August 22, 1745, at which the Revs. Daniel Rowlands (Llangethio) and William Williams (Pantycelyn) were Moderators. See *Meth. Cymru*, vol. I., p. 123. It is very unlikely that two such meetings would be held so near each other in the same neighbourhood. Richard Tibbot was present at the August meeting, and doubtless would have been at the July one had it been held anywhere in Upper Montgomeryshire, for at that time he had returned to Llanbrynmair, where he lived the remainder of his days. It is stated, however, that he wrote a letter to the Blaen-y-Glyn Association, which proves that he was not present. R. W.

FOOTBALL ON SHROVE TUESDAY (Feb. 16, Mar. 2, 1887).—From a query put to the *Red Dragon*, the National Magazine of Wales, in September, 1884, it would seem that the custom of playing football at Shrove-tide was still observed at Narberth, in Pembrokeshire. "On that day, it appears, football is played in the streets, all the shutters are put up, and the principal thoroughfare is given over to the players." At a later date, I gave the following quotation from Strutt's *Sports and Pastimes* (1838, p. 101) adding that Chester was adjacent enough to the Principality to incline one to the supposition that the custom obtained as much in Wales in former days as it did in either England or Scotland:—"It had been the custom, says a Chester antiquary (I think the elder Randal Holmes, one of the City Herald's) time out of mind, for the shoemakers

yearly on the Shrove Tuesday, to deliver to the drapers in the presence of the Mayor of Chester, at the cross on the Rodehee, one ball of leather called a footeball, of the value of three shillings and fourpence or above, to play at from thence to the Common Hall of the said city; which practice was productive of much inconvenience, and therefore this year (1540) by consent of the parties concerned, the ball was changed into six grayes of silver of the like value, as a reward for the best runner that day upon the aforesaid Rodehee." I only know one place where the practice is still observed, and that is at Chester-le-street in Durham.

Cardiff.

G. H. B.

CURRENT NOTES.

Last week, after an exciting hunt, four fine badgers were captured alive near Glanyrafon, Lawryglyn, the residence of Mr N. Bennett.

A stained glass window has been placed in the Chapter House of Lichfield Cathedral, in memory of the late Prebendary Edwardes.

"God's Providence House" of Chester has had a very narrow escape from destruction by fire. A fire broke out there, and was extinguished by the Earl of Chester's Brigade, but not before considerable damage had been done.

Mr Thomas Gleave, who for the past thirty-six years had been treasurer of the Flint Corporation, died on Thursday, aged 74. He was also secretary to the Flint Gas and Water Company, and was largely engaged up to the time of his death in the timber trade in Liverpool.

Mr Randle Wilbraham, High Steward of Congleton and senior magistrate of the county of Chester, died at his residence, Rode Hall, Stoke-on-Trent, late on Thursday night. The deceased gentleman, who was born on New Year's Day, 1800, was placed on the commission of the peace as far back as 1827. He took a very active part in county affairs, and was greatly respected. Mr Wilbraham was at one time proprietor of the *Chester Courant*.

A brass in memory of the late Dean Howson has been fixed to the wall of the north aisle of the choir of Chester Cathedral. The brass is contained in a sunken panel of Runcorn stone with carved Early English border, and bears the following inscription:—"To the memory of John Saul Howson, D.D., late scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, and from 1807 to 1885 dean of this Cathedral Church, which, mainly by his devoted efforts, was during those years recovered from decay to a state of beauty and fitness for the worship of God and for the ministry of the Word. Ob. Dec. 15. 1885. 'Crux est potestas Dei.'" The design is by Mr Blomfield of London.

At a meeting of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire held at Liverpool on Thursday, a paper was read by Mr W. F. Watkin on "Recent Roman Discoveries in Lancashire and Cheshire." He referred to the discovery of four hundred silver Roman coins near Fleetwood, and to Roman tiles and stones found in the course of excavations in Bullen's-court, Chester, where Whitefriars Church once stood. In 1886 some workmen excavating near the Roodee found ancient oak piles, two human skulls, a pig of lead, and coins of the reign of the Roman Emperor Vespasian. He also alluded to the discovery of the Blackfriars hypocast in Chester, in June, 1886, whilst workmen were engaged in sewerage operations. Amongst the debris of this discovery was a silver coin of Constantine the Great.

Some days ago the trunk of the historic Great Oak on Hustaway Coumon, near Eardisley, which has been held in veneration by the villagers for generations past, was discovered to be on fire. The fire was extinguished, but it is feared that the vital parts of the tree have been much damaged. It was found that the boys in the village one morning set fire to the debris of dried leaves, &c., which had accumulated inside the trunk (the base of which is variously estimated at from 30ft. to 40ft. in circumference), and that the tree itself caught fire. The next day, as a sort of commemoration of the salvation of the tree, Mr Barber entertained a party of 23 children to tea within the trunk. Under this old tree, which is said to be a thousand years old, the village feasts always used to be held, and a special one which was called "The Great Oak Feast."

The *Athenæum* says—Mr Lewis Morris will publish at Easter, through Messrs Kegan Paul, Trench & Co., a volume of lyrics, under the title of "Songs of Britain." The book will comprise, besides lyrics proper, three narrative poems of importance, derived from Welsh folk-lore, and resembling in style the author's popular "Epic of Hades."

The *American Science Monthly* discusses the marine deposits upon Moel Tryfan. The writer holds, and sustains with a great collection of evidence, the opinion that the occurrence of fossil sea shells, &c., at that height is not, in this instance, due to submergence and raising of the land; but that Moel Tryfan lies in the line of the great terminal moraine of a vast glacier which overlay the Irish Sea, and came down from the north-westward, and that the marine shells were brought to their present position by the glacier. His view is that no part of the British Isles shows conclusive evidence of submergence to the extent of more than 450 feet.

WELSH PRIDE.—The following (from the *Percy Anecdotes*) is a fuller account of an incident related in *Border Counties Worthies*:—"A curious anecdote is related respecting a contest for precedence, between the rival Welsh houses of Perthir and Werndee, which though less bloody, was not less obstinate than that between the houses of York and Lancaster. Mr Proger of Werndee, dining with a friend at Monmouth, proposed riding home in the evening; but his friend objecting because it was late and likely to rain, Mr Proger replied: 'With regard to the lateness of the hour we shall have moonlight, and should it happen to rain, Perthir is not far from the road, and my cousin Powell will, I am sure, give us a night's lodging.' They accordingly mounted their horses; but being soon overtaken by a violent shower, rode to Perthir, and found all the family retired to rest. Mr Proger, however, calling to his cousin, Mr Powell opened the window, and looking out, asked, 'In the name of wonder, what means all this noise? Who is there?' 'It is only I, your cousin Proger of Werndee, who am come to your hospitable door for shelter from the inclemency of the weather, and hope you will be so kind as to give my friend and me a lodging.' 'What! Is it you, cousin Proger? You and your friend shall be instantly admitted, but upon one condition, that you will allow, and never hereafter dispute, that I am the head of the family.' 'What did you say?' returned Mr Proger. 'Why, I say, if you expect to pass the night in my house, you must allow that I am the head of the family.' 'No, sir, I never would admit of that; were it to rain swords and daggers I would ride this night to Werndee, rather than lower the consequence of my family. Come up, Bold, come up.' 'Stop a moment, cousin Proger; have you not often confessed that the first Earl of Pembroke (of the name of Herbert) was the young-

est son of Perthir; and will you set yourselves above the Earls of Pembroke?' 'True, I must give place to the Earl of Pembroke, because he is a Peer of the Realm; still, though a peer, he is of the youngest branch of my family, being descended from the fourth son of Werndee, who was your ancestor, and settled at Perthir; whereas I am descended from the eldest son. Indeed my cousin Jones of Lanarth is of an older branch than you, and yet he never disputes that I am the head of the family.' 'Why, cousin Proger, I have nothing more to say; so good night to you.' 'Stop a moment, Mr Powell,' said the stranger, 'you see how it pours; do admit me at least; I will not dispute with you about our families.' 'Pray, sir, what is your name, and where do you come from?' 'My name is —, and I come from the county of —.' 'A Saxon of course; it would be very curious indeed, sir, should I dispute with a Saxon about families; no, sir, you must suffer for the obstinacy of your friend, and so a pleasant ride to you both.'"

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

We have received, in pamphlet form (Bangor: *North Wales Chronicle* Office) the excellent address, mentioned before in these columns, and delivered by Principal Reichel before the Welsh National Society at Liverpool.

Two papers in the *Red Dragon* for March may be mentioned as specially interesting, "The Real St. David," and "What America owes to Welshmen." The natives of the Principality may well be proud of the love of liberty shown by Roger Williams, when so few even of the best and wisest knew what true freedom of conscience was.

Book-Prices Current (issued to subscribers only by Elliot Stock, Paternoster Row) is the first number of a monthly record of the prices at which books have been sold at important auctions, with the number of the lots and the names of the purchasers. It will be a useful record for the book-lover and the book buyer.

Mr W. Herbert Scott, encouraged by the favourable reception accorded to the publication of a series of "Local Legends on New Lines," in *Eddowes's Shrewsbury Journal*, has issued them in a shilling volume, published at the *Journal* Office, Shrewsbury, and by Messrs Woodall, Minshall and Co., of Oswestry and Wrexham. Amongst the stories are "The Ogo Hole" (of Llanymynech Hill), "Dick Spot's Secret, an Olden Time Story of Oswestry," and "Humfrey Kynaston" (of Nesscliffe).

The *Poetical Works of the Late Alfred Johnstone Hollingsworth* are being published, in numbers, by Messrs. Woodall, Minshall, and Co., of Oswestry and Wrexham, with a memoir of the author by his tutor, a clergyman who lived near Liverpool, whose name is withheld because of the singular circumstances of the poet's life. When "Childe Erconwold," by Mr Hollingsworth, was issued, with the memoir, in 1856, the poem was received with considerable favour by the Press, but the story of the writer's strange career excited greater interest, and it reads more like a romance than a record of real life. The first number is chiefly occupied with this short memoir, from which we learn that Hollingsworth, the illegitimate son of a lady of some position, was committed to the care of a nurse, from whom he passed to the household of the clergyman already mentioned. Grown to manhood without knowledge of his parentage, Hollingsworth fell in love, and was refused when the father of the young lady discovered the story of his birth. From that time he became a wanderer on the earth, and in the course of his wanderings fell in with Mr Melladew, who edits the present issue, and has discovered that "Childe Erconwold" was only the rough outline of

"Lady Meleetha," which is now to be published. The end was as sad as the life had been. Hollingsworth took ship for America; the ship struck and put back to Liverpool, with cholera on board; and there were many deaths. Nothing was ever heard of Hollingsworth by his friends, and he must have died between the time when the vessel set sail and her return to port.

MARCH 23, 1837.

NOTES.

A KERRY GHOST STORY.—Years ago it was a common rumour in Kerry parish, Montgomeryshire, that a certain squire of an estate which is no longer in his family, walked the parish after his death. Many are said to have seen the squire, but no one summoned courage to speak to him. Among the most pronounced unbelievers in the apparition was the sub-agent of the estate, who thought that if his late master appeared at all he ought to appear to him, who had been so intimately connected with the estate. It would almost seem that the spirit heard, and felt the force of the remark made by his former sub-agent, for shortly afterwards, when this man was going up the steep road that leads from Kerry to Newtown, the squire appeared to him. Mr W. was horrified at seeing Squire H. approaching him, and gladly would he have escaped from facing the spirit, but this was impossible, as his late master was evidently approaching to speak with him, so, trembling in every limb, and his hair standing on end, he faced his employer's ghost, and actually asked him why he visited the earth after death. To this question the squire vouchsafed the answer that he had defrauded the estate, and that certain trees were to be felled, which were specified, and the debt of honour paid with the proceeds, and then, said the ghost, when this is done I shall rest quietly in my grave! Furthermore, the ghost bade his old servant lie flat on the ground, with his face downwards, whilst he disappeared. The man obeyed the mandate, and when he got up there was no one near. He reached home more dead than alive, and to the many fond questionings of his careful wife he gave no answer, but she, shortly afterwards, ascertained the cause of her husband's great fright by listening to a conversation which she overheard between him and the head agent. The trees were felled and sold, and the debt paid, and no more did the squire trouble the peaceful vale of Kerry. E.O.

QUERIES.

OSWESTRY LAMPS.—In the account of the rejoicings on the Jubilee of George III. it is stated that "by a happy occurrence the lamps put up were for the first time lighted on the 25th" (of October, 1809). What lamps were these? W.O.

MR. RICHARD TWINING IN NORTH WALES. In a recent notice of a book upon the Twining family, it was stated that in 1785 Mr Richard Twining "did" North Wales. At Llangollen he drank tea with "the Ladies," and whilst on his travels he met the "ever-credulous Mr Pennant." Can anyone give further particulars? S.
Lampeter.

THE SQUARE ROOD.—The "square rood" (often called the "Welsh rood") of 64 square yards, is still in use over a large part of Denbighshire and Flintshire. It is now chiefly employed in measuring potato grounds. I am anxious to ascertain the exact limits of the area within which it is known in North Wales, and how far it extends into Shropshire. A rather important question relating to the ancient history of Powysland appears to be involved in the determination of this point. I shall, therefore, be glad to learn the name of any parish in which this square rood is actually used. I should like, in addition, to ask whether any *perch*, differing in length from the statute measure, is known in any of the border counties of England or Wales. If so, what is its length, and where is it still used?

ALFRED N. PALMER.

3, Ar-y-bryn Terrace, Wrexham.

REPLIES.

SIR HENRY MORGAN, THE WELSH PIRATE (March 25, 1885).—At this date a correspondent, "J.T.," inquired "of what district in Wales Morgan was a native?" A note which appears in the March number of the *Red Dragon* gives this information. He was the son of Robert Morgan, who was the third son of Thomas Morgan of Llanrhymney, co. Monmouth, who was the grandson of Rowland Morgan of Machen, the direct ancestor of the Morgans of Tredegar, one of the most ancient and illustrious families in South Wales.

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

THE BLIND WELSH HARPER OF ALTON TOWERS (March 9, 1887).—Two of the competitors at the Carnarvon Eisteddfod held in 1821 were blind men, viz, John Morgan of Carnarvon, and Robert Rowlands, Beddgelert. The adjudicator also was blind, Richard Roberts of Carnarvon, who gained the prize at the Wrexham Eisteddfod, in 1820, and also at Denbigh in 1828. The last-named died in Carnarvon; his son was for many years in the employ of my father, and I have still *Jones's Musical Relics*, once belonging to the old harper Richard Roberts. Probably the Harper referred to by BONVM may be one of the others. A.P.

SALESBURY OF RUG (March 16, 1887).—In answer to your correspondent's enquiry, Colonel Vaughan Salesbury left Rûg at his death to his next brother, and eventually it descended to their nephew, the late Sir Robert William Vaughan, Bart. He, at his death left it to Mr Charles Wynn (son of Lord Newborough), who is its present owner. This historic estate was once the property of Owain Brogyntyn, and it remained in his descendants for many generations, eventually vesting in a female heir. This lady married Piers Salisbury, eldest son of John Salisbury of Bachymbyd, near Ruthin, and grandson of Thomas Salisbury *hên*, of Llleweni, and so carried Rûg to the family. After many generations it fell into the hands of a female heir, and she was the lady who willed it to her kinsman Edward William Vaughan of Nannau, but with the condition that he should assume her maiden name of Salesbury; and then followed all that is said above, as to its eventual devise to Mr Wynn. It should be added that Mr Wynn can claim a descent from the Salusburies of Llleweni through Robert Salusbury of Plas Issa.,

Llanrwst, and that, I believe, influenced Sir Robert Vaughan to leave this estate to him. CORWEN.

COCKSHUTT (Feb. 16, 23, March 9, 1887).—With an apology to the VICAR OF COCKSHOT and Mr JEBB for not accepting their way of deriving this name, I beg to send you the following remarks. In my humble opinion both gentlemen are mistaken, if not as to the origin of the name, certainly as to the meaning of the words they use to prove that origin. They fail to grasp the significance through no fault of their own, but simply because they are not conversant with the Welsh tongue. For the sake of order and plainness I shall arrange the words used into three classes.

I.—*Cock, cockrobin, cockhorse, cockloft, and cocket*. These are pure English words. Their meaning has not been caught owing to the unfortunate mistake made as regards the first word *cock*. It is not a diminutive at all—the diminutive is *ock*, as *hillock, paddock, &c.* *Cock* robin, I take it, simply means *cock* and not *hen* robin. The proud, majestic airs a cock assumes are known to all. Well, I always thought that a *cock horse* was *such* a prancing, lively, spirited kind of horse. In primitive times houses were but of one story, with a loft-like roosting place among the rafters for the cock and his family. Hence it was called a *cockloft*; and hence an upper small room is still called a *cockloft*, although not now really so. Lastly *cocket* evidently means little cock; as *pocket* is little *pock*, or *poke*, or *bag*; *floweret*, little *flower, &c.*

II.—*Cockboat*. As Mr JEBB says, *cockboat* is not little boat, but neither is it *cockleboat*. The Welsh word for boat is *cwch*. The English pronounce the Welsh *ch* as *k*; hence they soon transformed *cwchboat* into *cockboat*. It is in fact made up of an English and a Welsh word both meaning the same thing. To a Welshman *cockboat* is *boat boat*; the same as *River Avon* is *River River, &c.* According to Mr JEBB, *cockswain* ought to mean *cockleswain*, which would be absurd, as *cockswain* means the man who looks after the *cwch* or boat.

III.—*Cockfield, Cockburn, Willcock, Cockermouth*. *Cock* in these and kindred names (of which there are scores) means something different from what it means in the foregoing words. (I. and II.) It would be a very great help to English name investigators if they kept in mind that the Welsh were, at one time, masters of and dwellers in the whole country, and not, as at present, in one part of it only. And also, that these Welsh folk were of a fierce, fighting disposition, engaged in frequent conflicts amongst themselves, and with the Saxons and other foes. When, in any of these battles, a field got reddened with blood, or the waters of a river were dyed scarlet, or the sides of a hill or bank became crimson with gore, they became known to posterity as *Caecoch, Afoncoch, Bryn-coch, and Bancococh*. Englishmen in receiving these names translated the *name part* only, retaining the adjective, but changing the spelling as they could pronounce it. Thus we get *Cockfield* (Red Field), *Cockburn* (Red Stream), *Red Hill, Cockbank* (Red Bank), *Cockley* (Red Pasture), &c. In the same way *Willcock* means *Wil Coch* (Red Will), comp. *Wm. Rufus*. I fancy Mr Coxhead would more likely mean Mr Red

than Mr Little head. *Cockermouth* is, as Mr JEBB says, the town at the mouth of the river *Cocker*. *Cocker* again is shortened from *cockder*—Red Water—so named, in contradistinction to the *Derwent*—or White Water—into which it runs. Now as to *Cockshutt*. Mr JEBB's derivation from *Cocks' Holt*, i.e., *Cocks' Wood*, seems to me the most probable one, and I am inclined to believe it to be the correct one. However, I shall offer one myself, as it would be unfair for me not to do so. Unfortunately I don't know sufficient about the locality to offer anything but a haphazard guess, yet justly inferred from what I have already written. If there be a brow or steep hill close by, I should expect it to be a corruption of the Welsh name *Cochallt*—all meaning a steep or brow. Englishmen would soon change the *Coch* into *Cocks*, and having got rid of the unpronounceable *ll*, would throw in an *h* for the sake of euphony, and thus *Cochallt* would easily be turned into *Cockshut*, in something the same way as the Old Man of Coniston has been corrupted from the Welsh name *Allt Maen* (Stony Steep) R. DAVIES.
Rhiwlas.

CURRENT NOTES.

The death is announced of Major John Quin Pardey, one of the few remaining officers of the Peninsular War. Major Pardey, who died at Bath in the 92nd year of his age, served for many years in the Shropshire Militia.

By the death of the Rev. Edward Roberts, of Cwmavon, the Welsh Congregationalists have lost one of their ablest preachers. He was born near Dolgelley in 1816, and, after the usual course at Brecon College, of which he was later offered the principalship, was ordained in 1834 at Carnarvon, where for nearly 43 years he exercised his ministry. For many years he edited the *Adolygydd*, and was a contributor to the *Welsh Times*. His letters in the latter paper on Church questions attracted much attention, and locally did such good service that a banquet was given in his honour. Some years ago he gained the prize of 50 guineas offered for the best essay on the life of Sir Robert Peel.

A discovery of some interest to the lovers of old ballad literature has recently been made in the finding, in an old house in Cheshire, of a MS. book of early Jacobean date, put together by one Robert Hassall. It contains the ballad on the death of the Earl of Essex beginning,

Sweet England's pride is gone, waile-a-daie, waile-a-daie,
differing somewhat from known copies; also a complete copy in sixteen verses of 'A Lamentable Mone of a Souldier for the Losse of his derely beloved Lorde,' as well as further ballad and other entries that seem to be entirely original. The pith of the book will shortly be given to antiquaries through the pages of the *Reliquary*.

The ancient Welsh custom, now nearly obsolete, known as riding the Ceffyl Pren—"Wooden Horse"—and intended to operate as a warning to faithless wives and husbands, was revived recently in an Anglesey village some three miles from Llangefni. The individual who had drawn upon himself the odium of his neighbours had parted from his wife. On Saturday night, March 12, a large party surrounded his house, and, compelling him to get astride a ladder, carried him shoulder-high through the village, stopping at certain points to allow the womenkind to wreak their vengeance upon him. This amusement was kept up for some time, until the opportune arrival of a sergeant of police from Llangefni, who rescued the man. A number of summonses have been issued.

At Holywell County Court, on Wednesday, his Honour Judge Horatio Lloyd gave judgment in an action in which Mr Griffith Jones (Glan Menai), Llanfairfechan, sued Mr T. P. Edwards, secretary of the Royal Welsh Eisteddfod, held last year at Caerwys, to recover £5 5s, a prize offered by Mr J. Herbert Lewis, solicitor, Liverpool, for an essay on the "Eisteddfodau of Caerwys and the antiquities of the place;" £1 1s, the value of a silver medal offered by the committee; and £4 4s "for the loss of publicity and reputation" suffered by the plaintiff by reason of the defendant's breach of contract in refusing to submit the essay to the adjudicators and to award the prize. On the part of the defendant it was alleged that the plaintiff's essay was nothing but a wholesale plagiarism, and that fully nine-tenth of the essay had been copied from books. It was said that the essay had been mislaid, but it had afterwards been found; and the two essays (one by the defendant) had been sent to the adjudicators. One of them had refused to act, and the other two awarded the prize to the defendant. Judgment was entered for the defendant without costs.

Professor Michael D. Jones of Bala, who for so many years has been so intimately connected with the Welsh Settlement in Patagonia, read a paper on Friday before the Cambro-Britons Society at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, on "Welsh Colonization." Mr Jones's reading, largely from a pamphlet written by himself 30 years ago, explained the theory of emigration which underlies the scheme for which he has worked so zealously and sacrificed so much. He subsequently gave a short, simple, and quite dispassionate statement of the pros and cons of the Patagonian Settlement, which, after the many vicissitudes inseparably connected with schemes of the kind, seems at last in a fair way of attaining success. Whether it is to be a success for Wales depends very much on the Welsh people. Continental emigrants, particularly Germans and Italians, are already casting hungry looks at the fertile plains of the Chupat and the rich treasures of the Andes. If Wales means to maintain the hold it now has it must be by means of increased occupation by Welshmen who can work, or who can pay for work done. In the discussion that followed, Mr Thomas E. Ellis, M.P., took part, and strongly commended the feeling of nationality which was so strong an element in Mr Michael Jones's Scheme of Emigration. The President of the Society, Dr Morgan Davies, suggested that some public body such as the National Eisteddfod Association should bring about an authoritative inquiry into the progress and capabilities of the Welsh Settlement in Patagonia.

The first number of the eighth volume of *Y Cymmrodor* has just made its appearance nominally under the editorship of Mr Egerton Phillimore. It is well known, however, that Mr Phillimore has unfortunately been prostrated by severe illness, and that the number has been issued under the supervision of Dr Isambard Owen. Amongst the editor's contributions, however, may be numbered the transcript of some interesting pedigrees from Jesus College MS. 20, which have been collated by Mr J. G. Evans, and a selection of Welsh poetry by Iago ab Dewi, printed from a MS. in the possession of Mr Aneurin Rees of Tonn. The number also contains Dr Owen's address at the Cymmrodorion Section of last year's Eisteddfod on "Race and Nationality," Mr Howel Lloyd's paper on "St. David," and the Rev. John Davies's on Sir William Jones, and some bibliographical notes by Mr Howel Lloyd on Morgan Llwyd o Wynedd. The acting editor promises another number very shortly.

Welsh scholars have another reason for satisfaction just now, for the first instalment of the long expected Dictionary of the Welsh Language by the Rev. D. Silvan Evans, B.D., rector of Llanwrin, has made its appearance. It is published by Mr William Spurrell of Carmarthen, himself an authority on matters of philology. By his enterprise on this occasion Mr Spurrell adds another to the many claims he already possesses on the gratitude of his fellow-countrymen. The first part, a full royal octavo of 420 pages, deals only with the letter A, which it completes. An effort will be made to make each succeeding part to complete its last letter. The work, if carried out as proposed, will undoubtedly form an epoch in the history of the Welsh language, and stimulate further study of its ancient literature which Mr Silvan Evans has so completely ransacked for his quotations. It is not too much to say that Mr Silvan Evans has almost single-handed succeeded in doing for the Welsh language what Dr. Murray and his numerous helpers are doing for the English language. It is sincerely to be hoped that Mr Spurrell will have no reason to complain of the scanty support which too often is the share of those who strive to serve the interests of Welsh literature.

Unheralded and unassisted except in a very general way by a few of the public, the world of Literature has been enriched by the first volume of the Welsh Texts, as edited by Professor John Rhys and Mr J. Gwenogvryn Evans of Oxford. This volume contains the text of the *Mabinogion* and other Welsh Tales from the *Red Book of Hergest*. Contrary to the use of the term *Mabinogion* by Lady Charlotte Guest, the Editors of the Welsh Texts hold that there is no warrant for its application to any but the "Four branches of the Mabinogi," namely, *Pwyll*, *Prince of Dyfed*; *Branwen*, daughter of *Llyr*; *Manawyddan*, son of *Llyr*; and *Math*, son of *Mathonwy*; for strictly speaking the word *mabinog* is a technical term meaning a literary apprentice, and the inference is that the *Mabinogion* meant the collection of things which formed the *Mabinog*'s literary training. In addition to the *Mabinogion* already mentioned, the volume contains the following tales:—*Maxen's Dream*, *Luudd and Llewelyn*, *Kulhwch and Olwen*, and *Rhonabwy's Dream*; and the *Romances of Owain and Lunet*, *Peredur*, and *Gereint and Enid*. In the appendix we also have the *Triads*, both mythical and historical. A short preface by Professor Rhys is followed by some introductory remarks by Mr Gwenogvryn Evans wherein he deals with the palæographical details which make the book so valuable an acquisition to the scientific philologist. Never before in any dealing with Welsh MSS. has such care and attention been bestowed on those points which really give them their value to students of Celtic philology and literature. The volume is dedicated to the most Honourable the Marquess of Bute, K.T., "in acknowledgment of the interest he takes in Welsh Literature."

The *Athenæum* says:—"Mr A. N. Palmer, whose researches into the common-field system at Wrexham are well known, will contribute to the next issue of the *Antiquary* a study of modern Welsh surnames."—Mr Palmer's *History of the Parish Church of Wrexham* is now being passed through the Press by Messrs Woodall, Minshall, and Co., of Oswestry and Wrexham.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Messrs Woodall, Minshall, and Co., have published a full and classified Index to the seven volumes of *Bye-Gones* from 1871 to 1885. The work has been compiled by Mr G. H. Brierley.

Amongst recent publications is "Essays Introductory to the Study of English Constitutional History, edited by Henry Offley Wakeman and Arthur Hassall." The proofs have been examined by the Bishop of Chester, and the book is highly praised.

The new volume of the *Gentleman's Magazine Library* (London: Elliot Stock), "Romano-British Remains, Part I," contains an interesting introductory chapter by Mr Gomme, summarising the result of his own researches into Romano-British history. Differing from Mr Coote, who believes that "England is now a lineal descendant, without a break, of Roman Britain," and from Mr Seeborn, who "traces the village community to its home as a Saxon institution in a shell of serfdom under a lordship formed on a Roman model and by Roman influences," Mr Gomme contends that "provincial Britain received little from the Roman Empire save the nominal succession to its luxurious villas and its walled and well-fortified strongholds." This theory, Mr Gomme maintains, is confirmed by the records of Romano-British remains here gathered together. The remains which are described in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and here conveniently collected and classified under counties, tell us a good deal about the military and social life of the Romans; the legions stationed in Britain, the emperors who were honoured, and occasionally the private sentiments of the soldiers; the construction of the cities and the roads which connected them one with another; the domestic habits, the clothes and ornaments of the invaders. Pins and needles, metal mirrors, bead necklaces, amethyst pendants, hair pins, bracelets, brooches, combs, show that Roman ladies had much akin to their English sisters of to-day; a surgeon's lancet found at Wroxeter and an oculist's stamp for a box of salve—"The Diabolanum of Tiberius Claudius, the physician, for all complaints of the eyes, to be used with egg"—are also among the relics; and it is surprising to read of several pieces of glass supposed to have belonged to a plate-glass window, and "superior in its manufacture to glass of the present day!" On the other hand, historical and antiquarian researches, Mr Gomme points out, seem to prove that the Romans, while they brought a high civilization here, left little impress on the life of the British people. The military organization of the land was as poor when the Romans left as it was when they came; "the cities armed, but could not combine, the tribes fought only to be defeated *seriatim*." There are "no British villas after Roman models, no British fortifications and defences learnt from the greatest masters of the military art"; there is "no money bearing the image of any Romano-British prince or British city." But on matters of religion, as architectural remains at Silchester, in London, and elsewhere go to show, there seems to have been a certain continuity between the Roman occupation and the times which succeeded it. Now, whatever may be thought of Mr Gomme's theory, it will be seen at once how useful these volumes of archaeological collections are in helping us to form a picture of the long-past life of the country; and how especially valuable they will be to students and writers, who are thus saved weeks or months of research. In the days when these contributions were sent to "Mr Urban," scant reverence was shown for the most interesting remains. Thus, about 1700, the smith's shop at Wroxeter was burnt down, and the smith thereupon, following the immemorial custom of the place, proceeded to search in the ruins of *Uriconium* for materials to rebuild his premises! Of *Uriconium*, by the way, the following story is told in this volume:—"There is said to have been a well or fountain on the bank, sloping down to Bell-brook, now covered up, but formerly seen open by some of the oldest inhabitants (1859). It was believed

that great treasures were concealed under the fountain, and the following proverbial rhymes have been current in the parish from time immemorial:—

By the brook of Bell
There is a well
Which is richer than any man can tell."

The present volume carries us as far as Somersetshire, and we must wait for the next to see the contributions from Wales.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN WALES.

In the House of Commons on Monday, Mr W. Abraham asked the Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education whether Welsh would be included among the Class subjects under Article 15 of the Education Code now lying upon the table of the House.—Sir W. Hart-Dyke: The hon. member is aware that Welsh is now a "specific subject"—i.e., it is taught to individual scholars and grants are made in respect of each child who passes; but I am not prepared to make Welsh a "class subject," and therefore to refuse all grants unless the language is taught throughout the school.—In answer to another question from Mr Abraham, Sir W. Hart-Dyke said: It would be difficult to accept on the part of pupil teachers in Wales instruction at the three University Colleges of Cardiff, Aberystwyth, and Bangor, as equivalent to residence in a training college, for the syllabus of subjects the study of which it is thought necessary to enforce on candidates for certificates is not adopted at those colleges, and students would therefore be placed at a disadvantage in the examination and would be less eligible as teachers afterwards.—In reply to Mr T. E. Ellis, Sir W. Hart-Dyke said: The hon. member is aware that in Welsh-speaking districts it is already provided that the intelligence of the children examined in any elementary or class subject may be tested by requiring them to explain in Welsh the meaning of passages read, and I know of no reason to object to the use of bilingual reading books. The forthcoming general report on Wales, which will be published separately, will show the attitude of her Majesty's inspectors on the subject, and will, I hope, satisfy the hon. member that the Department is not insensible to its importance.—Mr T. E. Ellis asked the Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education whether for many years up to 1862, a grant was made by the Government to the pupil teachers who successfully passed in Welsh or Gaelic, and who taught in schools in Welsh or Gaelic-speaking districts; whether the Scotch Education Code of 1866 allowed pupil teachers to obtain marks in the Gaelic grammar, translation, and composition in their admission examination to the training colleges, and directed a grant to be made to pupil teachers employed in giving bilingual instruction to Gaelic-speaking children; and whether the Education Department would add Welsh to the four languages in schedule 5, section 10, of the Education Code, and direct a grant to be made to pupil teachers employed in giving bilingual instruction to Welsh children.—Sir W. Hart-Dyke: A grant was formerly made to certificated teachers under the circumstances described in the question, and by the Scotch Code of the present year the customary grant is made in respect of pupil teachers employed for the special purpose of giving bilingual instruction, but not required to make up the minimum staff. I am not, however, as at present advised, prepared to make the changes suggested in the last part of the question.

ST. DAVID'S DAY IN AMERICA.

The *New York Times* of March 2nd, in reporting a dinner held under the auspices of the St. David's Benevolent Society, says:—"Though the body of good St. David went the way of all flesh sundry centuries ago his spirit was energetically present at the Westminster Hotel last night. It hovered over a table laden with good things; it inspired a Welsh menu and filled it with words full of consonants and void of vowels, and finally drew together a collection of gentlemen whose ancestors at some time or other flourished on Welsh soil. All this did good St. David's spirit. At the head of the table where these loyal descendants sat was a huge red dragon—a spiteful, conspicuously-tongued animal, but still emblematic. It was surrounded by a Welsh legend, which a few gentlemen could understand, and which they translated for the bene-

fit of the uninitiated to be "The red dragon will give the signal for the march." All over the room were flags—Welsh flags for St. David, Irish flags for St. Patrick, who, according to ancient lore, was a pupil of St. David; and the American flags as a compliment to impartial Uncle Sam, who shelters everyone and asks no questions. The menu was generally considered a model of hieroglyphics. Everyone who wanted to know what progress he had made with the dinner was forced to refer to the President, ex-Postmaster-General Thomas L. James, who smilingly deciphered the trying lines. The menu was headed "bwydresb," and oysters on the half-shell were pleasantly called "Llymeirch ar haner cregyn." One of the dishes which was less substantial than its name was "goforddwyd o ych-gig mysgdaeth o wynwyn." The only intelligible dish was coffee, which became simply coffi. If consonants caused indigestion not a gentleman would have reached his home this morning untouched by dyspepsia. After the fatigues of the menu had been successfully passed through, there was some music (Welsh, of course), under the direction of William Courtney. Then the way was open for the grand Anglo-Saxon amusement of post-prandial speech-making. Toasts were responded to, songs were sung, and St. David's descendants were then free for another year. The following letter from President Cleveland was read during the evening:—

Executive Mansion, Washington, Feb. 24, 1887.

The Hon. Thomas L. James, President, &c.

Dear Sir,—Please accept my thanks for the invitation you kindly sent me on behalf of the St David's Benevolent Society to attend the annual dinner of the Society on the 1st day of March ensuing. I am obliged to respond with real regret that my official engagements will not permit my acceptance of your invitation.

I wish I knew more of the St David's Society, but the fact that it is in the hands of our Welsh fellow-citizens is abundant guarantee to me that its usefulness will be at all times maintained, and that its benevolent purpose will not be neglected. My knowledge of the Welsh people of America, though not extensive, has given me the utmost faith in their sturdy adherence to principle, their high regard for law and order, their just appreciation of the duty of reasonable benevolence, and their cheerful practice of frugality and industry, and these things constitute good citizenship. Hoping that the dinner you have in contemplation may prove to be an occasion of complete pleasure,—I am, yours sincerely,

GROVER CLEVELAND.

MARCH 30, 1887.

NOTES.

OLD FOLKS.—The following is copied from the Burial Register of the Parish of Llandegla for 1814:—

Jan. 18—Catherine Lloyd, Casgan Ditw, aged 91 years.

Jan. 24—Thomas Roberts, Pentre Bwlch, aged 92 years.

March 11—Thomas Ellis, Cefndu, aged 101 years.

March 27—Evan Jones, Hendy, aged 83 years.

June 28—Catherine Parry, Dolddu, aged 101 years.

From three gravestones adjoining, in Llandegla Churchyard, belonging to the same family:—

August 23, 1807—John Davies, Tyncoed, aged 82 years.

April 11, 1823—John Davies, aged 93 years.

Jan. 22, 1826—William Davies, aged 81 years.

April 10, 1827—Margaret Davies, aged 86 years.

Jan. 2, 1837—John Davies, aged 86 years.

There are four widows residing at Llandegla within a few yards of each other, aged from 82 to 86 years, and another widow living near the village in her 100th year.

Llwyn Dedwydd.

LLYWARCH HEN.

QUERIES.

DANTE AT HARLECH.—I have heard it stated that Dante was once at Harlech. Is there any authority for the statement? If so, did Ellis Wyn, the Bardd Cwsg, inspire Dante, or did Dante inspire the Bardd Cwsg?

GWENYDD.

REPLIES.

FOOTBALL IN THE OLDEN TIME (February 16, March 2, 9, 1887).—A somewhat lengthened residence in Wales has convinced me at least of this—that you cannot raise an animated discussion among a party of Welshmen more easily than by asking the meaning of Welsh words and sentences; and the more learned the party is, the more intricate does the discussion usually become. Bonwm's bait in *Bye-Gones* of March 9, is a most enticing one, and I hope it will be the means of raising a bigger fish than myself. With all the humility that should characterise small fry in matters antiquarian, however, may I not ask, with respect to *Bro* and *Blaenau*, whether Bonwm and I are not in the same net? It certainly does appear that I was wrong in saying that *Bro* signifies highlands. Is not Bonwm equally wrong in suggesting that *Blaenau* implies highlands? As far as I can ascertain, neither *Bro* nor *Blaenau* carries the idea of elevation or the contrary; and it is doubtful whether Bonwm's translation of "Bryn a bro," as "hill and dale" is correct. Perhaps the meaning of *Bro* can be explained by referring to Rhys's "Celtic Britain," where it will be seen that the word enters into the composition of the well-known word "Cymro." When the Saxons, in the sixth century, at the battle of Chester, cut the Brythons occupying the plains of Teyrnllwg (reaching from the Dee to the forests of Cumberland) off from their compatriots occupying the country now known as Wales, these compatriots of Wales and Teyrnllwg called themselves Cym-bro (combrox)—the natives of the country, the original occupiers of the soil, as against the All-fro (allobrox)—the invaders. From this wide significance has not the word *bro* obtained a more restricted sense, so that now it means the inhabited country as against the uninhabited country, the village as against the country districts, the centre of population as against the *blaenau* or outskirts? Thus, is not the proper translation of "Bro and bryn," not hill and dale; but, broadly "town and country"? As to *Blaenau Festiniog* meaning the upper part of Festiniog, does not *Blaenau* in this connection mean where the valley is terminated by high lands? With reference to the racial distinction, I must confess that when I heard the Bros at Llanwenog called "Paddy Bros," I thought that I was on the track of tradition which would throw light on the nationality of the earlier inhabitants of that part of the country, especially as Professor Rhys makes the River Wyre (which is not far off from Llanwenog) the dividing line between the Goidels and Brythons, at the time of the Roman occupation. There seems to be doubt whether Goidel and Brython inhabited Wales in the way suggested. Perhaps I was justified in thinking I had struck upon a vein which would lead to significant results; but on making further inquiry the vein ended abruptly, like very promising veins of lead and other ores very often do; for it seems that the "Paddy Bros" were descendants from three

Irish families who settled in the parish a few generations ago, and, in order to be assimilated with their neighbours, dropped their Irish names and adopted the more familiar names of Davies and Jones. But to return to the subject—football in the olden time. I have, since writing the account which appeared a short time ago, made inquiries in North Wales and find that there, too, "Cicio co'l" was the great game for Christmas Day, and not only football playing, but wrestling and the throwing of stones and of an iron bar were indulged in—"Ymaflyd codwm clôs a thafu maen a throsol." The stone was thrown overhand, and the bar of iron by the foot and hand. One end of the bar was placed on the foot and the other end held in the hand, and thrown after a certain amount of momentum had been acquired by swaying the foot backwards and forwards. A gentleman, now about forty years of age, told me that his grandmother had as many as sixty first and second cousins engaged in a football match on the east side of Cader Idris. Another gentleman, over sixty years of age, told me that over half a century ago very severe contests were carried on upon the large common which lies between the top of Tallyllyn Lake and the pass leading into Dolgelley. Now the place is divided into fields, but then it was an extensive plain whereon met the Porridge Boys of Corris, and the Flumery Boys of Stradgwyn, two neighbouring townships. My aged informant stated that the young people seldom went to bed during the night preceding Christmas Day. The earlier portion of the night was occupied in making cyflath (toffy); and between four and five in the morning of Christmas Day the young people would go off to the plygain, where a service was read. The great attraction, however, was the carol singing, and the length of the service was according to the length of the carols and the number of the singers. My informant had a good voice, and frequently took part in the singing. These carols, it appears, were sold in ballad form at fairs, and learnt ready for Christmas and other festivals. The custom was for a party of three or six or so to take up a carol. First one would sing two lines, then two lines would be sung by a second, the two singers uniting to sing the remaining two lines. These having finished their carol, another set would sing, and so on, until all the parties who had come prepared would go through their performance. This, of course, led to much competition, not for money prizes, but for public approbation, which a writer says is one of the great incentives to human action. After service the morning was spent in eating and drinking, in many cases more in drinking than in eating, so that before dinner time many would be incapacitated from joining in the dinner of roast goose—a Christmas-day institution—or in the subsequent game of football, which required all the wits and resources of those who indulged in it, especially for the men of 'Stradgwyn, as the following lines will show:—

Ni wiw i 'Stradgwyn gicio co'l
A meibion dewirion Corris;
Nerth yr uwd yn môn y glun
Sy'n gwneud y dyn yn dawns.

This, I may state for those who do not understand Welsh, may be freely translated to mean that the porridge strength of the leg makes the Corris boys effective, and that it is little use for Stradgwyn boys to

try to kick against them. At Dolgelley, even as late as forty years ago, football used to be played in the streets. The ball was got ready by the time the inhabitants came out of church, and then a contest occurred between the upper and the lower part of the town, and waxed fierce in the narrow streets. CARDI.

GEORGE III.'S JUBILEE (Feb. 23, 1887).—We give the following reports of rejoicings in 1809 (which have appeared in the *Vale of Clwyd Free Press*) to supplement those that have already appeared in our columns:—

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

LLANFYLLIN.—The Corporation of this ancient Borough and the other inhabitants of the place attended divine service when an excellent discourse was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Hassal, the curate of the parish. They afterwards dined together; and in the course of the day fifteen sheep were apportioned amongst the poor of the parish, and in the evening a sheep was roasted and divided amongst the populace.

LLANMYNECH.—The inhabitants of this village and its vicinity, having made a very handsome subscription, met at the Cross Keys Inn, where they partook of an elegant dinner, and drank the health of our good old King, with three times three, which was, by signal, immediately followed by firing 21 rounds from the Rock, and the blaze of a bon-fire on the point of the Hill. Some excellent songs, trios, &c. were given, the Llanymynech band playing at intervals "God save the King," "Rule Britannia," &c. Much praise is due to the president, the Rev. W. Howell (who gave a most impressive discourse in the morning) for his mode of conducting the entertainment. At the close of the day a grand display of fireworks took place, conducted by the Vice-Presidents, Mr T. Yates, and Mr Williams, surgeon, who sent up two balloons in good style, to the great amazement of many of the spectators, to whom the sight was novel. A ball for the ladies concluded the celebration of the day. In these scenes of mirth and festivity the poor were not forgotten; a large quantity of bread was distributed in the church, to the relief of many needy families, out of the subscription money.

MONTGOMERY.—A subscription was entered into for the relief of the poor during the winter, which was immediately filled up to a very considerable amount. A noble ox was roasted, and distributed to the poor after divine service, with plenty of bread and ale, when "Long life to the best of Kings," was drunk amidst peals of the bells, and the shouts of the multitude. Soon after, a large party of the inhabitants and neighbours dined together at Read's, and the patriotic festivities of the day concluded with a ball in the Town Hall, which was illuminated, and attended by all the beauty of the town and neighbourhood. A dutiful address was resolved unanimously to be presented to his Majesty, on his entrance into the 50th year of his reign.

WELSHPOOL.—The morning was ushered in with the ringing of bells; and the whole of the time before church service was taken up with cheering the hearts of nearly 300 families, by the supply of a sum to each, to enable them to participate in the general joy of our venerable Sovereign having attained the 50th year of his reign. The bailiffs, aldermen, and inhabitants went in procession to church, accompanied by a band of music. Dinners were provided at the principal inns, where numerous and respectable companies attended, and expressed the fulness of their hearts in loyal toasts and songs. At night a numerous assemblage of persons resorted to a ball at the Oak Inn.

FLINTSHIRE.

HANMER.—The morning was ushered in by the ringing of bells and the display of flags. After divine service, which was numerously attended, two large oxen, the one given by the Right Hon. Lord Kenyon, the other by Sir Thomas Hanmer, Bart., and a fine fat sheep, the gift of the Rev. John Hanmer, the worthy vicar of the parish, were distributed with a large portion of bread, cheese and ale, to the numerous objects of their liberality; and a double allowance of weekly pay was voted by a vestry meeting to those who were dependants upon parochial relief. The two troops of Yeomanry Cavalry, commanded by Walden Hanmer, Esq., assembled and paraded the village, and were afterwards regaled by him at the Lion Inn; a large party likewise of the 1st regiment of Flintshire Local Militia, attended by their excellent band, fired repeated *feux de joie* in honour of the day, and afterwards partook of a dinner, at the Royal Oak Inn, given by their loyal Commander. The neighbouring farmers assembled at dinner in the village, and spent the day in temperate festivity and dancing.

CURRENT NOTES.

The borough of Carnarvon, on Friday, by a large majority, decided in favour of adopting the Free Libraries Act.

At an inquest held at Dreisa, Cardiganshire, last week, out of twelve jurymen, five of them answered to the name of "John Jones."

Mr Astley Thompson of Glyn Abbey, Carmarthenshire, magistrate, and high sheriff of the county in 1872, died suddenly at Tenby on Thursday.

The Rev. Frederick Vernon, Vicar of Shapwick, Somerset, has been appointed Vicar of Shawbury, Salop, Patron, Sir Vincent R. Corbet.

At a meeting of the Senate of the South Wales University College on Wednesday the following resolution was passed:—"This meeting desires respectfully to urge upon the senate of the University of London the importance of inserting Welsh among the alternative languages in which candidates may be examined at the matriculation examination."

It is stated that Mr W. T. C. Giffard has removed from Chillington Hall, near Brewood, the ancestral seat of the family, to Pendryl Hall, Codsall, and that Chillington will shortly be occupied by Mr R. H. Briscoe, Somersford Hall. It is said that this is the first time for a period of 700 years that Chillington Hall has been occupied by any other family than that of the Giffards.

A very handsome pavement in mosaic marble has been laid in the Church of St. Laurence, Ludlow, by Mrs and Miss Kyrke Penson, in memory of Mr Kyrke Penson. The floor is a favourable specimen of the mosaic art which has so recently been revived. A tablet in Carrara marble has been erected, bearing the following inscription:—"To the glory of God, and in loving memory of Richard Kyrke Penson, this pavement is dedicated by his wife and daughter. May 22nd, 1886."

A complete peal of bells, eight in number, arrived last week for the tower of the new church of St. Mary, Chester, which, together with the rectory and schools, the Duke of Westminster is building at his sole expense, at a cost of over £30,000. The tenor bell, which is 20cwt., bears the following record of the donor, clergyman, and churchwardens:—"Gloria in excelsis Deo. Hugh Lupus, Duke of Westminster, donor. Henry Grantham, rector. Alex.

MacGregor, John Gamon, churchwardens. 1887." One of the inscriptions is "Success to the House of Eaton," and another "If you will ring, I'll sweetly sing." The small bell bears the following inscription:—"God save the Queen, Jubilee year, 1887."

At Llangelni, last week, summonses were heard against seven men who had been engaged in lynching Owen Owens, by causing him to "ride the ceffyl pren" (wooden horse) through the village of Rhosstrehwfa. Prosecutor lived apart from his wife, and the villagers, as already reported (C.N., March 23, 1887), procured a ladder, and, going to his house, dragged him out, laid him flat on the "wooden horse," strapped him tightly down, and then, amid jeers, carried him around the neighbourhood. He was eventually released by the police. The defence was that the whole proceeding was a joke. One defendant was discharged, but the other six were bound over in £10 to keep the peace for six months.

A Californian paper gives an account of a Welsh Eisteddfod held at Hamilton Hall, Oakland, California, under the auspices of the Oakland Society of Cymmrodorion, presided over by Mr Richard Jones, president of the Society. A large number of prizes were given for the singing of Welsh songs, &c. Several bardic addresses were given in Welsh. A prize of 100 dollars (about £25) was awarded to the Oakland Choir for the singing of "Y Blodeuyn Olaf," by J. A. Lloyd, and "Let the hills resound," by Brinley Richards. The gold medal for the best Welsh essay on "The advantages of California to Immigrants," was awarded by Professor Thomas Price, the adjudicator, to Taliesin Evans, and its publication by the Society for sale in Wales was recommended. It was announced that next year another festival would be held, at which a prize of 250 dollars, and a gold badge worth 50 dollars, would be given for the best choral singing, the competition open to all nationalities on the Pacific Coast, and the subject to be announced within thirty days.

The *Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald* gives some figures from returns lately published which show a remarkable growth in the Welsh Shipping Trade. The earliest governmental return is for the year 1847. Carnarvon in 1847 had shipping with 9,614 registered tonnage; in 1885, it had 44,221, an increase considerably more than fourfold. The whole country (including Newport, which is virtually Welsh) had in 1847 a total tonnage of 105,695; and in 1885 the combined tonnage was 354,755, an increase of 235 per cent. England shows an increase of 120 per cent. Beaumaris shows a decrease which is accounted for by local circumstances, while Cardiff has grown from 5,501 tons to 164,917. In general trading the position of Wales is still more favourable. The foreign and colonial trade of Wales (including Newport) was, in 1847, 457,000 tons; in 1885, it was 10,444,000 tons. This is an unparalleled development, being at the rate of no less than 2,185 per cent. The increase in England is 300 per cent. The trade of Cardiff in 1885 was close upon 7,000,000 tons. The following figures more plainly show the position occupied by Wales in the shipping trade. England: 1885, foreign and colonial trade, inwards and outwards, 45,507,000 tons; Wales (including Newport), 10,444,000 tons; Scotland, 7,137,000 tons. In the coasting trade, Wales excels each of the other divisions of the United Kingdom in the increase which has taken place since 1847. The percentages of increase are:—England, 135; Scotland, 319; Ireland, 230; and Wales, 381. The figures are:—England, in 1847, 19,681,000 tons; in 1855, 46,136,000 tons; Scotland, in 1847, 3,264,000 tons; in 1855, 13,542,000 tons; Ireland, in 1847, 3,672,000 tons; in 1855, 12,069,000 tons; Wales (and Newport), in 1847, 2,205,000 tons; in 1855, 10,665,000.

THE VAN DYCK EXHIBITION at the Grosvenor Gallery includes two examples of this master lent by Mr S. Kynaston Mainwaring of Oteley. One is a life size portrait, said to represent a Duke of Alva, and the other a portrait of Inigo Jones.

ECCLIESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS IN THE DIOCESE OF ST. ASAPH.—The Rev. David Williams, curate of Llangantfrid-Glan-Conway, has been appointed to the vicarage of Glyndyfrdwy, near Corwen, Merionethshire, vacant by the appointment of the Rev. George Williams to the rectory of Trefonen, Oswestry, which is in the gift of the Earl of Powis. The Bishop of St. Asaph has offered the vicarage of Llangadwaladr, near Oswestry (vacant through the collation of the Rev. William Davies to the rectory of Llangwstenin), to the Rev. John Williams, senior curate of Ruthin, who has accepted it. The Rev. Llewellyn Jones has resigned the curacy of Moreton for that of Holywell, Flintshire.

A FOX HUNT IN WHITCHURCH.—Sir John Hill and three of his sons, including Lord Hill, in a fox chase in 1818, which lasted two hours, pursued the fox into the town of Whitchurch, Salop. In the Green End he was met by several persons, who drove him back over the Town Pool Meadow, whence he took refuge in the garden of Mr John Knight. Here the hounds met with a check, and the sportsmen not being able to get into the garden were obliged to ride up the White Lion yard, through the town into Doddington. Sly Reynard was, however, soon driven from his hiding-place by the huntsman, and he took into the garden of Miss E. Langford, and finding the back door of the house open, entered the hall, ran upstairs and got into a cupboard, whither he was pursued by the dogs, and taken. The consternation of Miss Langford may be more easily conceived than described, in having a fox and a whole pack of hounds in her house, and about fifty red-coats assailing the house without, headed by the gallant Lord Hill.

The Late Mr. David Pugh.

On Wednesday, March 23, the remains of Mr David Pugh, solicitor, registrar of Holywell County Court (formerly and for many years of Dolgelley), who died at Penymaes House, Holywell, on the previous Sunday, were interred in Brynford Churchyard, near that town. Since the death of Mr Pugh his family have received numerous letters and resolutions from public bodies with which he was connected, acknowledging the services he had rendered to the Liberal party in Merionethshire, Carnarvonshire, Montgomeryshire, and Flintshire. The mourners were Mr John O. Pugh, manager of the North and South Wales Bank, Corwen, and Mr James Pugh, National Provincial Bank, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (sons), Mr Farmer, North and South Wales Bank, Liverpool (son-in-law), Dr Lloyd, Holywell, Mr H. A. Cope, Saithaelwyd Hall, Mr W. R. Williams, solicitor, Rhyl. There were also present Mr Lewis Williams, Corwen, representing the Corwen Liberal Association; Mr W. G. Williams (Northyn), representing the Edeyrnion Liberal Association; Mr R. D. Williams, representing the Carnarvonshire Liberal Association; Mr Davies, solicitor, Llandudno, Mr Robert Thomas, the Holywell Conservative Association, and Mr Bryan the Holywell Liberal Association. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. R. O. Williams, vicar of Holywell, and the Rev. David Jones, rector of Brynford. The deceased was the eldest son of the late Mr John Pugh, solicitor, of Dolgelley, was born in 1819, and received his education at Shrewsbury School. He was articled to Mr John Jones, solicitor, of Dolgelley, and at

the expiration of his articles himself practised for many years as a solicitor in his native town. He was the first clerk of the Dolgelley Local Board, and one of the promoters of the Dolgelley Gas Works. During his long connection with Dolgelley deceased also filled several other public offices, and was for many years Deputy Clerk of the Peace for Merionethshire. It was as Liberal registration agent for Merionethshire, however, that he was most widely known, and in that capacity he was for upwards of forty years closely identified with the political contests which took place in that county, especially in that which resulted in the successful return of Mr Williams of Castell Deudraeth, as the Liberal member for the county. In Carnarvonshire also his organising experience and abilities have frequently been employed for the Liberal cause, and during his residence in Flintshire he also worked quietly but effectively on behalf of the Liberal members for the county and boroughs. Indeed the greater part of Mr Pugh's life was lived among the fierce heat of political strife; and no journey was too long, no fatigue too great, for him to undertake on its behalf. Throughout North Wales Mr Pugh was widely known, both among the members of the legal profession and the public generally. In 1874 he was appointed registrar of the Holywell County Court by Judge Vaughan Williams, in succession to the late Mr Samuel Williamson. In Holywell the deceased gentleman was widely known and respected. He was ever ready to do a kindness for his fellow-men, and his ripe judgment and prudent advice will be missed by many. He leaves a widow and six children—two sons and four daughters.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The Llanidloes collection of the Women's Offering to the Queen amounts to £5 8s 10d.

At Winsford, it has been decided to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee by the erection of a free library.

At a large meeting of ratepayers, held in the Town Hall, Nantwich, on Wednesday night, the motion for a free library was carried unanimously, and it was also decided to organize local festivities.

Some singularly lugubrious methods of celebrating the Queen's Jubilee have been proposed. At Llanwenog "a movement is on foot to celebrate Her Majesty's Jubilee by providing a public hearse for the parishes of Llanwenog and Llanwnen." A public meeting, presided over by Mr Hughes, a justice of the peace, has adopted the proposal, and appointed an executive committee to carry it out. The Chairman, who "originated the matter," has been "congratulated upon his happy idea!" It will be remembered that at Denbigh it was proposed to commemorate the Jubilee by providing a new burial ground for the parish.

THE MOEL FAMMAU TOWER RESTORATION.—Messrs Douglas and Fordham, Chester, whose plan for the restoration of Moel Fammau tower has been accepted, have issued their "particulars," in which they state that the original structure, which was of a pyramidal character, and a considerable portion of which succumbed to a storm of wind and rain, was built of strong and sound stone, but poor mortar. The proposed superstructure is to be a substantial erection, with a lookout room of octagonal shape, 30 feet in diameter, approached by a staircase in the building, the whole to be surmounted by a dome. The height of the building from the bottom to the apex ball will be 80 feet. An inscription, readable from the ground, will be carved round the dome, and they suggest that another inscription in Eng-

lish, Welsh, and Latin, should be carved on the panels. They add that the estimated cost is £2,000, and that they have obtained a builder's estimate for that sum.

MACHYNLETH.

A committee meeting in connection with the Women's Jubilee Fund was convened by her ladyship the Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry last week. Her ladyship presided, and from twenty to thirty ladies assembled. It was decided that the subscription should range from a penny to a pound. The several districts were marked out and collectors appointed.

LLANMYNECH.

In the school-room, a meeting was convened on Friday last, to consider what steps should be taken to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. There were present the Rev. R. E. Price, Major Story, Messrs. L. Baugh, E. Baugh, T. Deam, Fox Davies, Rogers (Llwyntidman), Humphreys (Pant), John Jones, Beddowes, &c. The Rector being voted to the chair, it was proposed and carried that on Tuesday, the 21st June, the Queen's Jubilee be celebrated in the village. A large representative committee was chosen, and Major Story was appointed treasurer. On the motion of the Rector, it was agreed that the parish of Llanymynech should show its appreciation of the objects of the Imperial Institute by supporting it with a small donation out of the amount subscribed. The next proposal related to the addition of two bells to those already existing at the church, but this was not supported, it being the general opinion that this year, owing to the badness of trade and from other causes, the necessary money could not be raised. Another suggestion, that the children living in the parish, together with any of the other parishioners who liked to avail themselves of the opportunity, be entertained in the afternoon to tea, met with approval, and this it was decided to carry out. A vote of thanks to the Rector concluded the proceedings.

Lines written on the Jubilee of George III., Oct. 25, 1810.

(Copied from an old book belonging to the Hon. Marianne Kenyon.)

Lord to our prayer attend,
Health in Thy mercy send
To George our King.
All ill from him remove,
Long may he live to prove
A grateful people's love,
God save the King.

Lord in Thy mercy deign,
Long grant a happy reign
To George our King.
And when to kindred skies
His blessed spirit flies,
May other Georges rise
Like George our King.

—Communicated by G.R., Llandegla.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

On Thursday evening, March 10, the Rev John Davies, M.A., read a paper before the Cymmrodorion Society on "Sir William Jones as Linguist and Author." The chair was taken by Mr David Lewis, Barrister-at-Law. The attendance shewed a distinct lack of appreciation on the part of the members of the Society of the very distinguished Welshman who was the subject of the evening's paper. The Rev John Davies is himself an Oriental scholar of acknowledged standing, and has contributed some valuable works to Trübner's well-known Oriental

Series. He was therefore specially qualified to deal with the greatest Sanskrit scholar of the 18th century. His paper will appear in full in the first number of the eighth Vol. of *Y Cymmrodor*, which is promised for this week. We shall therefore content ourselves with a brief summary of its principal points. The abundant labours of the German scholars, such as Bopp, Grimm, Schlegel, and in more modern times, Weber, Roth, Böttlingk, Schleicher, and others, in the study of the Sanskrit language and literature, have been so successful that they have cast the attainments of their predecessors—men like Sir William Jones, Colebrook Wilkins, and Milford—somewhat into the background. It is, well, however, to remember that it was these latter who were the pioneers who first discovered the land and laid open for the first time the important connection of the Sanskrit language with the Teutonic, Celtic, and other forms of speech. Amongst these pioneers Sir William Jones stands in the front rank, and in the extent of his knowledge he excelled all his contemporaries. He was familiar with the Semitic languages, particularly Arabic, and had thoroughly studied the Persian language and literature long before his attention was directed to the languages of India. He studied eight languages critically, English, Latin, French, Italian, Greek, Arabic, Persian, and Sanskrit; eight more or less perfectly, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Runic, Hebrew, Bengali, Hindi, and Turkish; in a lower degree he had studied twelve more, among which are numbered Pali, Coptic, Welsh, and Chinese. Of Welsh he had only a partial knowledge drawn from books alone, which led to the observation that he was a man who knew every language except his own. Though his attainments were of so large an extent he was not a superficial scholar. His pursuits were very various, and in many different departments of inquiry and research. It is much to his credit that on his removal to India he soon discovered the value of the Sanskrit language, not only on account of its extensive literature but also for its relationship to other languages. In the latter discovery he was the first explorer of a mine whose wealth is beyond all calculation. His conclusions on this point are now accepted by the most eminent linguists. Before examining his works, Mr Davies gave some information about the man. Sir William Jones was the son of William Jones of Llanfihangel Tre'r Beirdd in Anglesey, where his ancestors had been yeomen for many generations. Lewis Morris (Llewelyn Ddu o Fôn) had traced his ancestors on the maternal side to the ancient princes and chieftains of North Wales. Lewis Morris was himself a relative of Sir William's family. Sir William Jones, the "Annual Register" for 1800 notwithstanding, was not born in Wales, but in the Strand. He was educated at Harrow and University College, Oxford, whence he left to become private tutor to Lord Althorp, afterwards Earl Spencer. Later on he chose the Bar as a profession, and eventually was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of Judicature in Bengal. He was married (after he had received the honour of knighthood) in April, 1783, to Anna Maria Shipley, eldest daughter of the Bishop of St. Asaph. He resided in India 11 years, and it was there he died in 1794 when only 47 years old. His first publication was a small volume of poems in the year 1772. It consists chiefly of translations to a great extent from Oriental sources. His poetry was marked by much grace, but it can hardly be said that it had the true *awen* or inspiration of a great poet. He also wrote a tragedy called "Soliman," and projected a long poem called "Britain Discovered: an Heroic Poem in ten books," which was happily not carried out. The only other poetical volumes which he issued were a translation of

some Arabic poems, which on account of their excellence were hung up in the temple at Mecca, and a Persian poem on the unfortunate lovers Laili and Muijnoon. Some of his poems are marked by true manly vigour, notably that beginning with the well-known line, "What constitutes a State?" His prose writings, with the exception of some short pieces, began with two law books, one on the "Law of Bailments" (still reckoned a standard work), and a translation of the orations of Iseus, a Greek lawyer. His fame chiefly rests on his Sanskrit works. He translated the *Hitopadesa*, a book well known in Europe under the title of *Pitpay's Fables*. In 1789 he published a translation of the *Sakuntala*, one of the most beautiful, as it is the most popular of all Hindu dramas. A more ambitious attempt was the translation of the "Institutes of Manu," a book which may be considered as "a great addition to the sum of human knowledge." His work has contributed greatly to the advance of modern scholarship; and it can justly be claimed for him the honour of being on the whole the greatest scholar of his time.—The usual discussion followed the reading of the paper. Mr Lewis Morris thanked the reader for the very interesting and clear synopsis of the life and work of one whom he had the honour of calling a "distinguished ancestor of his own." He regretted to say that the pedigree to which Mr Davies had referred was not now to be found. It might possibly be amongst his great-grandfather's papers at the British Museum, or at the Welsh School at Ashford. Sir William Jones came from a stock of private tutors. He was pleased to see the other day at the Earl of Maclesfield's (where, by the way, there is a very valuable collection of Welsh books) a portrait of William Jones, the father (who was a tutor in the family), painted by William Hogarth. Sir William Jones's portrait, painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds, is at this day one of the pictorial treasures of Althorp, the seat of Earl Spencer. As for Sir William Jones's Sanskrit attainments, the opinion of an authority such as Mr Davies might be accepted as conclusive. As a poet Sir William Jones could not claim to stand in the first rank, but he had undoubtedly written poems that will live.—Dr. Isambard Owen proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. John Davies for his paper, and observed that Sanskrit had turned out to be the key to much of the domain of Philology, in the application of which Sir William Jones had borne a prominent part. He was glad to claim Sir William Jones as a Welshman, for he had always held that in the Welsh race there exists an inherent talent for language, the non-development of which in recent years is simply the result of a lack of means of education.—The Chairman remarked that Sir William Jones was even now the standard authority on the Law of Bailments, he having, as Mr Justice Story testifies, reduced the law from the chaotic state in which he found it into a clear, concise, and well-defined whole. He was glad to find from Mr Davies's paper that Sir William knew some Welsh, for Lord Campbell, in his *Lives*, had denied it. Lord Campbell, however, conceded that he was a great lawyer, and a great scholar. Mr Lewis referred at some length to the great case in which a pamphlet of Sir William Jones, printed in Flintshire, brought on a charge of sedition against Dean Shipley of St. Asaph, which eventuated in the passing of Fox's Jury Act. In conclusion he suggested the desirability of having busts of Sir William Jones, and other great Welshmen, placed in the National Colleges for the inspiration and emulation of the youth of the Principality.—The vote of thanks was cordially agreed to, and a similar compliment was paid to the Chairman on the proposal of Mr John Owens, seconded by Mr E. Vincent Evans.

APRIL 6, 1887.

NOTES.

THOMAS LLOYD, A.M., VICAR OF BERRIEW. The above-named, who was vicar of Berriew in 1643, was one of the clergy deprived of their benefices, and (according to a note in Wood MS., E. 29, Bodleian) was buried at St. Michael's, Oxford, on the 4th December, 1660. Z.

GRANTS BY HEN. VII. TO OFFICES AND PROFITS IN WALES AND THE BORDERS.

- A.D.
1485. 19 Sept. Restitution of the Temporalities in Herefordshire and the Marches of Wales, to Hugh, on his election to the Bishoprick of St. David's, p. 11.
" 20 Sept. Grant for life to Piers Eggerton, gentleman, of the offices of the amoborships in the counties of Caernarvon and Anglesea, with the raglorship of thadvowres of the said County. S.B. No. 16, p. 13.
" 20 Sept. Grant for life to Moris Lloyd (for service in our late tryumphe and . . .) of Walker of Wydegada and Elv . . . Commotes. S.B., No. 17, p. 13.
" 20 Sept. Grant to Hugh Pavy, clk., of the custody of the temporalities of the Bishoprick of St. David's, with the knight's fees, advowsons of churches, prebends, charities, chapels, and all ecclesiastical benefices whatsoever in the hands of the Crown by the translation of Thomas, late bishop there, and now bishop of Salisbury, to hold as long as the same shall be in the hands of the Crown.—S.B., No. 18, Pat. p. 4, m. 21 (4), p. 14. Z.

(To be continued.)

WILLIAM MORGAN, BISHOP OF ST. ASAPH.—Mr. Hancock was engaged some years ago upon the life of this incomparable man; but he seems to have given it up, and no one has taken his place; to our loss, certainly, for there is no name in our history more deserving of attention. I find that three of his descendants were living at Penmachno, in the latter part of the last century, (1) Ellen Ellis Morgan, who married Arthur Jones of the Lower Mill, Llanrwst, and by whom she had, among other children, Arthur Jones, D.D., of Bangor, in Carnarvonshire; (2) William Ellis Morgan, brother of the above lady, but of whom I know no more; and (3) John Ellis Morgan, another brother, whose daughter Elizabeth Ellis Morgan, by Catherine his wife, was baptized at Penmachno Church on the 23rd of April, 1786. A document has also reached me with the descents of some of the Bishop's kindred, thus—(descendants of his brother Ellis I believe)—(1) Ellis Morgan; (2) his son, Robt. Ellis Morgan; (3) his son, Isaac Ellis Morgan; and (4) his daughter, Mary Ellis Morgan. On another part of the same document we have—(1) Ellis Morgan; (2) his daughter, Jane Ellis Morgan, who m. Thomas Edwards, and their children—Janet, Margaret, Morris, William, and Edward. It is known that some of his sons served the Church in North Wales, and that

the eldest of them, Evan Morgan, was at St. Asaph, when the Bishop died there in 1604. This family were of gentle, not to say illustrious, descent, and Tynmawr is still pointed out as their old home. Their property got into the hands of the Wynns of Gwydir, then to the Mostyns, and then to Lord Penrhyn, but their fame remains to us, partly through their ancestry, but chiefly through the Bishop, whose services to his countrymen will last for all time. With the one definite entry at Penmachno Church, above alluded to, the genealogical antiquary might tell us more about this family than we now know; and if the clergy in the diocese of St. Asaph looked through their registers and marked Morgan births, deaths, and marriages, for a couple of hundred years or so, I cannot but think the result would be interesting to all of us. It is something to have a cultured gentleman in every parish, and this study is just the one that such men could turn to good account.

ASAPH.

WELSH SUPERSTITIONS.—In a curious little work entitled "A Relation of Apparitions and Spirits in the county of Monmouth and Principality of Wales (1779)," by the Rev. Edmund Jones, it is stated, that besides a staunch belief in the existence of witches, ghosts, goblins, and fairies the Welsh have certain wild fantasies which seem to be peculiar to themselves. The following are the most interesting and singular:—

1. The Dogs of the Sky (Cwn Wybir), or, as they are sometimes denominated, Cwn Annwn. These terrific animals are supposed to be evil spirits, under the semblance of hunting dogs (of what particular breed it does not state), and they are usually accompanied by fire, in some form or other. Their appearance is supposed to indicate the death of some friend or relative of the person to whom they show themselves. N.B. They have never been known to commit any mischief on the persons of either man or woman, goat, sheep, or cow.

2. Corpse Candle (Canwyll Corph). This apparition (of a lighted tallow candle, too) is also the fore-runner of death. Sometimes it appears in the form of a stately flambeau, stalking about uninvited from place to place; and sometimes it appears in the hand of the spectre of the person whose fate it foretells.

3. Cyhiraeth. A doleful foreboding noise before death, heard by the nearest kin to the person about to depart.

4. The Knockers. A very good natured fortunate sort of beings, whose business it is to point out, by a peculiar kind of bumping, a rich vein of metal ore, or any other subterraneous treasure. They are highly respected, and are deemed nearly allied to the fairies.

Oswestry.

J. W. W.

QUERIES.

PAY OF WELSH SOLDIERS.—From the following extract it will be seen that the pay of Welsh soldiers in the fourteenth century was lower than the pay of English soldiers. Can any of your readers supply a reason for this inequality. The extract is from "A Cursory Sketch of the State of the Naval, Military, and Civil Establishment, Legislative, Judicial and Domestic Econ-

omy of this Kingdom during the 14th century," by John Bree, A.M., 1791:—

With respect to all the superior officers serving at sea, the Lord Admiral only and his lieutenant, or when that office was afterwards divided, the admirals of the North and West and their respective lieutenants, were the only officers who had a stated fixed annual pay or fee, by the year, whether there were ships in actual service or not; that is to say, the Lord Admiral 200 marks and the Lieutenant 100, and for two clerks, one at one shilling, and the other at 8d per day, £30 8s. 4d.; and during the time of actual service, while any fleet or ships were in commission, the Lord Admiral or the Admirals of the North and West and their lieutenants, the captains, under captains, knights, squires, gentlemen, archers, &c., serving on board the ships were entitled to their daily military pay and subsistence, according to their several estates and degrees, the same respectively as those serving by land. What that pay and allowance was is clearly and precisely defined and ascertained, and that, too, for the very year, in the Harl. Mancs., No. 176, p. 17. The which account I shall insert at length when I come to treat of the Army Department, and shall only observe here in general, that a duke was allowed for his Dyet, by the day, as it is there stated, 13s 4d. An Earl of the blood royal, the same. An Earl, not of the blood royal, for his dyet by the day, 6s 6d. A Viscount, 5s. A Baron, for his Dyet by the day, 4s. A Knight, 2s. A Squire for the Body, for his dyet by the day, 2s. A Squire (not of the body), 1s 6d (with an extra allowance to each degree of 1s a day, for the dyet of every man and horse they brought into the field), and every Gentleman's pay for his dyet thus stated: a gentleman, for him and his servant, by the day, 2s. The man at arms one shilling, and the archer of foot 6d a day; but for dyet allowed to the latter only 3d per day; a ship boy, 1d ob.; archers on horse, vyntners of footmen, standard bearers, sergeants and cryers, being Welchmen, for their dyet, 4d per day each. Harl. Mancs., No. 176, p. 17. Memorandum in the Lord Treasurer Cromwell's account of the Revenues from Carnarvon and Merioneth in North Wales. It appears that the pay of the Gendarmes and archers there was less by one-third than that of the English archers.

X.X.X.

REPLIES.

THE CAE CYRIG MS. (March 9, 1887).—The Cae Cyriog MS., which is in my possession, was compiled by an ancestor of mine who lived at Cae Cyriog, near Ruabon. It is, as far as I can make it out, a genealogy of old Welsh families, and is written in Welsh. A good deal of it seems to be taken from the "Llyfr Du" or the "Black Book of Basingwerk Abbey," the only remaining copy of which, as I believe, is the one in my possession, the other two copies having been destroyed, one in the fire at Wynnstay many years ago, and the other, which was in the British Museum, at a fire on the premises of a binder, to whom it had been entrusted for binding. The book is written in black letter. My father, the late Dr Griffith of Wrexham, transcribed at various times a good deal of the Cae Cyriog MS., which has enabled me to form some idea of its contents.

Deal Rectory.

T. LL. GRIFFITH.

THE SQUARE ROOD (March 23, 1887).—The "Rood" is very generally used in this neighbourhood, chiefly to denote the length of fences, drains, &c., when it is taken at 8 yards. Occasionally the "Square Rood"

is made use of, and then it is 64 yards. It is in connection with farm labourers' work or jobbers' that this term is generally used.

Llandrillo, Merionethshire.

ELWD. JARRETT.

The rood of eight yards is used for measuring potato ground, and for draining and other similar purposes in the parish of St. Martins. I think it is occasionally called "the Welsh rood."

St. Martins.

J. W.

I remember my father always used to reckon the length of ditches and field drains, and also of stone boundary walls and potato ground, by the "rood" of eight yards, and a piece of ground eight yards square was called a "rhwd sgwar." My father's farm being in the parish of Corwen, it would be superfluous to call it a Welsh rood, it being universally used in that part of Merionethshire, then as well as now. Peeling the surface of the rough ground previously to bringing it under cultivation, locally termed *gwthio*, was always done at so much per "rhwd sgwar."

EDEYRNION.

The "square" or "local rood" is used in Baschurch for measuring potato ground. It contains 64 square yards. In Baschurch, too, the "long rood" is used in "brushing" or trimming hedges. It is eight yards long. It seems to be used in lieu of the statute perch, viz., five and a-half yards, and is therefore really the "Local Perch."

Baschurch.

W. DAY.

The square rood is still used in this parish for potato ground measure. It is eight yards square, total sixty-four yards.

Llanymynech.

E. BAUGH.

This rood is known in the parishes of Bettws and Tregynon (Mont.), but is well nigh fallen into desuetude; writing off-hand, I think it is used in measuring land broken up by hand process, locally known as "cutting *bietty*." Potato land is here measured by the "strike;" a row, or rows, consisting of 320 or 360 (in Mochdre 400) yards being allowed for the "strike's setting." Another rood, *not* square, in common use throughout Cedewen, is that of eight yards; by this draining, ditching, fencing, &c., are measured.

T. H. J.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Welshmen resident in Toronto have established a St. David's Society of Canada, the first Welsh society formed in the Dominion.

The late Mr William Middlemore, of Edgbaston, has bequeathed £250 each to a number of Baptist Colleges, among them Pontypool and Llangollen.

It is stated that the Marquis and Marchioness of Bute, being anxious that their children should learn Welsh, have engaged a Welsh governess to teach them that language.

It is announced that Mr Fred. A. Grey, a Welshman, Assistant Inspector of Mines for Lancashire, under the Chief Inspector (Mr Dickenson), has been appointed to the South Wales District, the Government having decided that in future Welsh-speaking inspectors shall fill such appointments in the Welsh district.

A few days ago there died in London a maiden lady, 88 years old, the daughter of a popular Welsh hymnist, known as Edward Jones of Maes-y-plwm. Margaret Jones was a member of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist

Church at Shirland-road, Paddington. She was buried in the Cemetery at Paddington, on the 21st March.

A legacy bequeathed nearly fifty years ago for the benefit of the poor of Dolgelly, by Mr Richard Jones, wool-stapler, of that town, has just been augmented by another substantial bequest made by his nephew, Mr John Howell Rees, who died in Australia in 1865, then leaving a sum of £417 in trust for the poor of that town, of which he and his uncle were natives. It appears that the money was at that time set aside and invested, and has now increased to a little more than £700 in consols.

A happy idea has recently been carried into effect by the formation of a National Quartet Party, in which the music of the four nations, Welsh, English, Irish, and Scotch, will be represented by four artists of acknowledged ability, who will appear in characteristic national costumes. Wales is represented by Miss Mary Owen in a Welsh dress of handsome silk brocade, pale green with crimson flowers, white kerchief and apron, with coloured stripes, embroidered stockings, buckled shoes, mitts, and high beaver hat with white cap. Miss Mary Owen, a soprano, who is rapidly making a name in English musical circles, is a daughter of the Rev. Robert Owen of Mold. Scotland has secured a very charming representative in the person of Miss Jeanie Rosse, who will appear in Scotch costume, with kilted skirt and scarf of McGregor plaid, stockings of the same, black velvet jacket with silver buttons, Tam O'Shanter hat with heron's plume, handsome silver-mounted sporrán, and buckled shoes. Miss Rosse is well known as a singer in Central Wales, having appeared on several occasions at Newtown, Llanidloes, Aberystwyth, and other towns.

Professor Rhys-Davids's address on "Buddhism" drew a larger audience than usual to the last meeting of the Cymmrodorion Society. The chair was occupied by Mr S. H. James, C.E., a gentleman whose long stay in India qualified him to speak with some authority on the points raised in the discussion that followed Mr Rhys-Davids's address. Mr Rhys-Davids himself spent a large portion of his life as a magistrate in Ceylon, where he had the advantage of studying the Buddhist religion and literature at close quarters. In his address he shortly described Gautama, the Buddha's Theory of Life, and explained the doctrine of Karma, and the meaning of the Nirvana, which he stated to be "a state of mind to be enjoyed in this life, as a consequence of which a person's individuality would cease, the nearest Christian parallel to it being found in the expression 'the peace of God which passeth all understanding.'" He also dealt comparatively with Brahmanism, and incidentally pointed out the resemblances between those Oriental religions and Christianity. In the discussion that followed, one of the speakers referred to a recently-published work, in which Christ is said to have derived all his teachings from the Essenes, who in their turn, had received them from the Buddhists. This theory Mr Rhys-Davids held to be entirely untenable.

A curious relic of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers has been brought from the Crimea by Major W. T. Walker, 3rd Middlesex Regiment. The 23rd Royal Welsh lost, at the battle of the Alma, their colonel and eight officers who were all interred about 60 feet from the face of the earthworks. Their fellow soldiers placed a stone on the grave with an inscription giving the names of those who fell, and the stone remained undisturbed for thirty years. A large marble monumental tomb has now been erected over the grave, and the old stone was broken by the workmen and thrown on one side. The stone arrived in England in a very broken condition, but was carefully put together by

Messrs Dunkeley of Highgate. The stone bears the names of Sergeant-Major H. Jones, Colour-Sergeant R. Hitchcock, Sergeant T. E. Edmunds, and drummers and privates killed on the field. The following is the inscription on the front face:—"During the attack on these heights, 20th September, 1854, H.B.M. xxiii R. W. Fusiliers lost the following officers: Lieutenant-Colonel Harry George Chester; Captains Arthur W. Williams Wynn, Francis E. Evans, John Charles Conolly; Lieutenants Frederick P. R. Delme Radcliffe, William N. Young, Bart., Henry Anstruther, and Joseph Butler, all killed on the field; also Lieutenant and Adjutant Augustus Applewhaite, mortally wounded and died 22nd September, 1854. This stone is sacred to their memory."

At a meeting of the Liverpool Welsh National Society, held at the Royal Institution, Colquitt-street, last week, a paper was read by the Rev. Griffith Ellis, M.A., on the subject of a revised version of the New Testament in Welsh. Passing over the objections to a revision arising from the supposed danger to faith in the divine authorship of the Scriptures, a brief review was taken of the history of previous revisions from the time of Jerome in the 4th century down to the revision of 1881. The Welsh translation of Dr. Parry was issued in 1620—nine years later than the English revision—which shows that the Greek text in the hands of the Welsh revisers must have been practically the same as that in the hands of King James's revisers. It was pointed out that in many places the Welsh translation is more correct than the English Authorised Version, and gives the renderings which the revised version has adopted; but in many cases there is ample room for improvement. Finally, it was shown that Welshmen have practically already all the advantages of a revision from the English revised version, though a serious disadvantage arises from the necessity of constantly correcting the Welsh text. It was desirable to have a revised version were it possible to produce it without destroying the charm and perfection of style characterising the present version. The speaker could not, however, with any confidence place himself among the advocates of a revised version in the Welsh language. After the reading of the paper a discussion took place.

We regret very much to learn that at the half-yearly meeting of the governors of Oswestry Grammar School held on Monday, the Head Master sent in his resignation. We are sure that this will be felt by all who have come in contact with him to be a serious loss to the town. Mr Forster has held the head mastership 13 years. During that time a great impetus has been given to education in the town generally, and the Grammar School itself has greatly extended its sphere of usefulness. Among the many advances made in the School we need only mention the erection of the new buildings, and the establishment of a centre for the Cambridge Local Examination, supported mainly by the pupils of the School. For some time past Mr Forster has been warned by Sir William Dalby, the aurist, that if he continues the work of teaching boys in classes, he may become seriously deaf, and so when the appointment of Bursar of Wellington College was offered him, he reluctantly felt that he ought to accept it, fearing he might not long continue capable of discharging his present duties as he would wish to do. Mr Forster will have the satisfaction of feeling that he leaves the School in a very flourishing condition, and in these circumstances we hope the governors will not find it difficult to fill satisfactorily a post of such importance to the town and neighbourhood. But it will be hard to find a successor possessing in a greater degree the qualities requisite for a successful head master.

THE QUEEN AND WELSH LITERATURE.—Her Majesty the Queen has commanded that two copies of Yorke's "Royal Tribes of North Wales," edited by Mr Richard Williams, F.R.H.S., of Newtown (now in the press), shall be sent to the Royal Library, Windsor Castle.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, ABERYSTWYTH.—Dr. Ethé, professor of Oriental languages at this college, has been appointed public examiner for the newly established honours school of Oriental studies in the University of Oxford. The first examination is to be held in June next. Dr. Ethé's chief subjects will be Persian and Arabic. The other examiners in the same school are Professor Max Müller, Mr Sidney Owen, and Mr Seton-Karr.

MUNIFICENT BEQUESTS OF A SHROPSHIRE LADY.—By the will of the late Mrs Carew, of Mytton Hall, Salop, £12,500 will be divided amongst various institutions in London, Liverpool, Rhyl, Shrewsbury, and Gloucester, including £3,000 to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, £2,000 to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, £1,000 to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary, £800 to the National Lifeboat Institution, and £2,000 to the National Society.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Mr Alfred Neobard Palmer of Wrexham writes very tersely in this month's *Antiquary* (Elliot Stock) on "Modern Welsh Surnames." Few men have had better opportunities of studying the evolution of surnames, and it is unnecessary to say that Mr Palmer makes the best use of his opportunities. He shows in this short paper the same conscientious care which is so conspicuously exhibited in his larger publications, and the extremely satisfactory result is a feeling of unusual confidence in his statements. Mr Palmer divides Welsh surnames into five groups, 1st, personal names changed into surnames: e.g., David; 2nd, names formed with ap: e.g., Pugh=Ap Hugh; 3rd, names founded upon epithets: e.g., the Wynns from *Wyn*, white; 4th, what we may call "estate names": e.g., the Penantns, the Trevors, the Tanats; 5th, including perhaps three quarters of the whole, the cases in which a man took the possessive case of his father's personal name.

Thomas ap David now called himself *Thomas Davies*; Hugh ab Evan, *Hugh Evans*; and John ap John—John being then pronounced *Jone* [or, to be more exact, *Shone*]*—John Jones*. Names like *Hughes*, *Roberts*, *Edwards*, and *Williams* also arose in this way. It will be seen from this explanation how ridiculous is the notion so often entertained that all the Joneses, for example, belong to one great clan. *Jones* is the commonest of all surnames, simply because *John* had become the commonest of all Christian names.

But in Wales the rule of deriving from the father's personal name was often departed from. Thus

Evan Thomas married Gwen Jones, and had by her three sons, Howel, Hugh, and Owen. The eldest definitely adopted his father's patronymic as a true surname, and called himself *Howel Thomas*; the second made a patronymic for himself out of his father's Christian name, and called himself *Hugh Evans*; while the third took, as a true surname, the patronymic of his mother, and called himself *Owen Jones*.

Altogether the *Antiquary* is an excellent number this month, with such papers as "the Cromwells in America," the curious "Folk-Lore of Guilleim," a continuation of "Old Storied Houses," &c. In *Book Lore* Mr R. Le Gallienne continues his account of "Some Old Tracts on Tithes." One writer, Spelman, inquires why a tenth should be given to religious uses, and favours us with a learned reply, concluding with this quotation—

This X of old exprest Christ's holy name,
And eke the Sacred Tenth which he doth claime,
Give then to Christ, what's Christ's without delay,
Give Caesar, Caesar's due, and both their pay.

Among other papers are "Children's Books"; "Letter Founders from Caxton to Day", with typographical illustrations; "The Present Value of Dickens's Works," from which we learn that first editions of "Oliver Twist" have fetched from £1 18s to £8, and "Christmas Books" from £6 10s to £10; and "A Few Words About Shelley," in which his great good qualities are indeed recognized, but his "peculiar view of marriage" is described as "scarlet in its malignancy," and Mary Godwin is classed with Hæcære because she ran away with Shelley. What next!

The *Illustrated History and Biography of Brecknockshire* by Mr Edwin Poole, an Oswestrian now settled at Brecon as editor of the *Brecon County Times*, is a closely printed quarto of 500 pages, and a mere glance at the work makes us wonder how a busy journalist can have found time to collect and compile the materials of this bulky volume. It is well printed at the author's own press, and Mr Poole, who is his own publisher, was fortunate enough to secure a goodly list of subscribers (with the Prince of Wales at the head of it) to reward his courage in undertaking and his great perseverance in carrying out so large and arduous a venture. For ten years Mr Poole was gathering information, but ten years would have been altogether insufficient in the absence of Theophilus Jones's *History of Brecknockshire*, which forms the groundwork of part of Mr Poole's publication; to which he has added entirely new features in the shape of a Military History of the county, a Biography of famous natives and residents, and a History of the Rise and Progress of Nonconformity. The present work must not be confounded with such undertakings as those of Jones and Meyrick, for it professes to be a "Popular County History" and Mr Poole has not attempted to do what they did, or to assume the position of a county historian who spends the best part of a lifetime in finding facts, and welding them into a work of literary craft which almost becomes a classic. The general historian and the antiquary will want to know more than can be found here; but on the other hand, is it not rather absurd to write the "history" of a Welsh county and ignore, as Theophilus Jones did, the rise and progress of Nonconformity? In one respect, at any rate, Mr Poole has the advantage of the older historian, in throwing aside all thoughts of sect and party; and it may be taken for granted that the modern religious life of the community is at least as important as surmises connected with "Druidical worship." Speaking of the Druids, it was perhaps scarcely worth while even to mention the monstrous and exploded notion that the top-stone of a cromlech was once used for the sacrifice of living victims; but the story of "the destruction of the finest cromlech in Brecknockshire" (on the Brecon road, near Crickhowell), was well worth telling, to show how even antiquaries have taken part in the lamentable work of demolition. It is related that Sir Richard Hoare and Sir William Ouseley attached teams of horses to the stones and pulled them down to see what was underneath! They found nothing worth finding for their pains, and the world lost a valuable monument of antiquity. To give some notion of the contents of the book, we may say that Part 1, pp. 1-24, is devoted to a rapid sketch of the general history of the county down to the Cromwellian wars; Part 2, pp. 25-84, to the town of Brecon; Part 3, pp. 85-269, to families, castles, churches, mansions, and antiquities; Part 4, pp. 270-290, to an account of the Military; Part 5, pp. 291-329, to biography; and Part 6, pp. 330-377, to the history of Nonconformity; and there are useful appendices containing annotated lists of Lord-lieutenants, Sheriff, M.P.'s, Magistrates, Population Tables, books printed in

the county, agricultural returns, &c. Last, but not least, there is an index of considerable length, so that we close the book with the renewed conviction that Mr Poole has spared no trouble in the execution of his heavy task. Breconshire is a county full of interest, and Brecon is a comely and has been a flourishing town. Whether the tradesmen of these days enjoy the good fortune of their predecessors we cannot say, but in the 17th century the historian says:—

For the trade of this town it is such that there is hardly a shopkeeper in it of any continuance but that has an estate, or is in a fair way to purchase, and that considerably. The grandfather of the Hon. Sir William Lewis, of Llangorst, Bart., was a mercer of this town; so was the grandfather of our late worshipful and truly worthy Colonel John Jeffreys, of Aberkunrick; whose great estates were chiefly purchased by their trades.

And Brecon boasts one stately building, the Priory Church, of which Mr Freeman, whose description is quoted, says "it is unquestionably the third church in Wales, and may even put some claim to be considered the second"—St. David's Cathedral being the indisputable first, and Llandaff the doubtful second. Mentioning Mr Freeman reminds us that Mr Poole has made plentiful use of many authorities, and quotes fully throughout, in one place from this great historian, in another from a gossip like the Rev. Kilsby Jones. In such a portly volume it is almost unnecessary to say that a number of old customs, legends, and amusing stories are recorded. The tyranny which prevailed in the days of the Lord Marchers is illustrated by the rule of the Lord of Crickhowell:—

All the tenants that helde their land of the saide prince [the king] ought to acknowledge the lords by the words followinge, that is to saie, first he ought to come before the lord, kneelinge, and acknowledge to hold of the lord of Crughwell such rents and lands by service of homage, and ought to close his handes within the lorde's, deposinge truly, on his faith by God and the holy Evangelists, that with his whole heart and soul above all things he shall love his lord, and in all places of any dread, shall stand up by his lord, him to defend, and his bodie well and truly, and without fraude and guile against his enemies keep. All this done the lord shall command him to stand up from his kneelinge, and shall kisse him, and after that all the tenants [are] see sworn, they shall give the lord or his officer by him appoynted, the sum of £5 of lawfull money of England immediately after the oathes and homages made.

If any man enters the saide parke (the lord's demesne) and there be founde, he ought to be attached by the Keeper of the Parke, and to be kept in the stocks, without the gate of the said parke, till he pay up, or else to loose his right foot, if the parke be closed round about.

A peculiar funeral custom prevailed at Defynnock as late as 1800:—

The parish clerk or sexton claimed and received mortuaries on the interment of every person, except paupers, and the residents of Treacastle, who paid fourpence in lieu of them, which claim was recognised by a terrier signed by the Vicar and principal inhabitants of the parish in 1801, and confirmed by the ecclesiastical court: these mortuaries consist of the best wig, hat, cravat, gloves, girdle, breeches, shoes, and stockings of the deceased, if a male; and if a wife or widow, of the best hood, cap, ribbon, handkerchief, gloves, and shoes and stockings, for which a composition may be made at the option of the surviving relatives of the deceased.

To close, let us give a modern story of the benevolent, and active, and original Archdeacon Davies:—

One day, early in the morning, when on an archidiaconal tour, the Archdeacon unexpectedly visited a church which he knew to be in a dilapidated state. He called at the clerk's house for the keys. The clerk not wishing him to see the church hid the keys in his pocket, and told the Archdeacon that he could not find them. "Hi! Collier, keys," said the Archdeacon. Whether the dog heard the keys jingling in the man's pocket or not cannot be told, but the Archdeacon's grandson, who was with him, relates that he never can forget the tableau when the dog ran

up to the clerk, put his nose into his tail coat pocket, and drew forth the keys, much to the discomfiture of that functionary.

We must not forget to say, that the book is illustrated with several portraits of County Worthies and engravings of mansions and castles.

APRIL 13, 1887.

NOTES.

REVENUES OF THE CATHEDRALS OF BANGOR AND ST. ASAPH.—Lambeth Library: MS. 948, Document 19, is a commission dated the 31 May, 1650, made on behalf of the Commonwealth between Sir Henry Holcroft and other trustees on the one part, persons named in the Act of Parliament for dealing with Church Property, and William Farmer of London on the other part, authorizing the latter to act as receiver for them of the revenues belonging to the Cathedrals of Bangor and St. Asaph. A statement of the accounts of the receiver would be an interesting document, but it does not appear to have been preserved. ZETA.

A CARDIGANSHIRE SUPERSTITION.—A superstitious practice seems to prevail in some parts of Cardiganshire by which the future husband is made, so it is said, to appear. The young lady, curious in this respect as to the future, gets a couple of lady friends to accompany her in procession nine times around a hayrick. She heads the procession and carries a boot, saying, "Dyma'r esgid, lle mae'r troed" (Here is the boot, where is the foot). At the ninth round the future husband makes his appearance. The number of the company must be three, and three only. Four would break the charm. My informant told me that she once took part in the experiment, but with no success, because at the seventh round, her fear got the better of her curiosity, and she and her companions ran away. Perhaps some of your correspondents have met with more success. Eos.

NORTH WALIAN SCRAPIANA. V. (Feb. 2, 1887). There are times and seasons in every cultured man's experience when doubts come into his mind and trouble him a good deal. I fancied one day in the year 1885 that Sir John Wynn had told a little story in his well-known work that did not wholly tally with my own researches upon the particular point I had stumbled upon. I thought it best to don my tweed, and march away to examine the matter for myself, and I got my journey for my pains, for Sir John was in the right and I in the wrong. My climbing days are over but my old love of adventure remains to me, and after looking over a part of "Eivonydd," for the secret which had given a zest to my ambition, but with the result I have mentioned, tired nature must have rest, and my more than willing mind bade me take it in close proximity to the locality I found myself in at the end of my long and painful walk. Welsh air, the mountain breezes, a beautiful clear sky, and abundance of good water to refresh both the inner and the outer man, and the sweet repose of a night among the hills fitted me for almost any venture. I accordingly went out of my way to have another look at Dolwyddelan Castle, for according to some writers it had been placed in the valley of St. Helen's, not far distant from the old mountain road which led to the Merionethshire coast, and known as Sarn Ellen, or Helen's way. The tradition is that Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, had caused this road, or way, to be

constructed, but the road being there sufficed for my purpose, and I willingly accepted the tradition therefore as true. But there is another tradition, which in my opinion is of far more historical interest to us, viz., that this Castle was first erected by the ancient Britons, when they settled in this particular part of North Wales, and the date of the settlement is fixed at A.D. 500. Two things struck me as bearing upon that point: (1) the Romans had gone, and the Britons could remain there without let or hindrance; and (2) the Saxons were driving them out of England, and they came here for a safe retreat. These people possessed a wonderful eye for points of vantage, and finding a steep insulated rock at this spot they at once set up a fortress there, one side of which rose almost perpendicularly from the valley below, and the Castle, as we know it, consists of two square towers, one forty feet by twenty-five, the other thirty-one by twenty; and each had formerly three floors. The materials of this fortress are, Mr Pennant says, the shattery stone of the country, yet well squared, the masonry good, and the mortar hard. That gentleman does not seem to think this edifice of so remote antiquity as is supposed; his words are: "This had been founded by some of our princes, but we are ignorant of its origin. There were few castles in North Wales before its conquest by the English." Let us accept all this as true, for it carries the air of truth about it, and also accept it as a protective fortress, and a place from which the Britons could see any enemy that entered into the district, for it had no other value whatever, but much later than the period alluded to we are told:—"This castle was the place of residence of Iorwerth Drwddwn; and here, it is said, was born his son Llewellyn the Great, who began his reign in the time of Richard I. The lease of this castle, and its appendages, were purchased in the reign of Henry VII. by Meredydd ap Ievan, an ancestor of the Wynns of Gwedir, from the executors of sir Ralph Berkenet, it having been excepted among the places granted by Richard III., and resumed by his successor. Before that time Hoel ap Evan ap Rhys Gethin, a noted outlaw, resided here." Thus are we brought step by step from Helen to the Castle; from it, to Iorwerth Drwddwn; from him to old Meredydd ap Ievan; and then by Sir John Wynn of Gwydir to his own account of it in his very remarkable history. A writer of the last century summed up the little he could say about it, and Sir John Wynn adds—"As soon as it came into the possession of Meredydd, he removed hither from his former residence at Eivonedd, assigning for reason, that he had rather fight with outlaws and thieves, than with his own relations, whom, if he continued at his house in Eivonedd, he must either kill, or be killed by them; such was then the barbarous state of this country; but he, by many prudent regulations, greatly reformed it, and established colonies of the tallest and ablest men he could procure; these at length amounted to seven score tall bowmen, every one arrayed in, as the history of the Gwedir family says, 'a jacket or armolet coate, a good steele cap, a short sword and dagger, together with his bowe and arrows; many of them alsoe had horses and chasing slaves, which were ready to answer the crie on all occasions.' He died in the year 1525, leaving behind him twenty-three legitimate and three natural children." Constantine the Great began his reign A.D. 306; Owen Gwynedd, father of Iorwerth, died 1169; and Meredydd ap Ievan died as we have seen in 1525. Thus we have, either traditionally or historically, some account of the valley called Dôl-Elen; the ancient castle put up there by the Britons; and how it passed to the Wynns, and why they retired from it, and settled at Gwydir, extending over a period of more than twelve hundred years. I add to all that the years between 1525 and 1886 (when I last saw the

spot), and if I am vain enough to feel proud of my mountain home why should I care if the Saxons should laugh at me? Well! I do not care, but I am very anxious that we ourselves should not be fighting with our "own relations," if it is possible to settle any doubtful points in the history of Snowdonia, by showing that our histories are faulty, and our traditions unreliable. That can only be done in two ways—absolute proofs by acknowledged records that our historians did not know the facts when they wrote, and that the local evidences of facts contradict the traditions of men. When Mr Askew Roberts was preparing his guide to North Wales, he observed all that came under his notice, and reasoned upon the statements already made by others, finally coming thereby at conclusions which seemed to him to be valid. With that valuable book in my hand I looked at Dolyddelen; at the quaint old castle; at Sir John Wynn's Gwydir family history; and I came away I hope a wiser man, for I had seen for myself the shield had two sides, but which of the two I preferred it is not for me to say now.

A NORTH WALIAN ANTIQUARY.

QUERIES.

A LEGEND OF LAKE OGWEN AND D. G. ROSSETTI'S POEM, "MICHAEL SCOTT'S WOOING."—The *Athenæum* of March 12, in a notice of "The Collected Works of Dante Gabriel Rossetti, edited with Preface and Notes by William M. Rossetti," 2 vols. (Ellis and Scrutton), states that

Many years ago Rossetti had designed a picture called "Michael Scott's Wooing," and the subject, or rather the mere name of the subject, had a peculiar fascination for him. For years he had wished to write a poem to be called "Michael Scott's Wooing," and had "cartooned" many ideas for it, but had never been able to satisfy himself till at last an incident occurred during that long seclusion at Kelmscott Manor, where, as he used to say, he had seen just a dozen people in two years, which set him seriously thinking about it. In the quaint old tapestried chamber that served for studio the evenings used to be whiled away by story-telling and discussing plots for poems and subjects for pictures. On one of these occasions a friend who had known something of the Welsh gipsies repeated to Rossetti an anecdote which had been told to him as a "quite true fack" by a Romani girl—an anecdote touching another Romani girl, whose wraith, having been spirited away in the night from the "camping place" by the incantations of a wicked lover, had been seen rushing towards Lake Ogwen in the moonlight, "while all the while that 'ere same chavi wur asleep an' a-sobbin' in her daddy's livin' waggin." Rossetti was greatly struck by this story, and immediately the subject for "Michael Scott's Wooing" was "mentally cartooned," and even the metre of the ballad was decided upon. But unfortunately for poetic art, the friend not long afterwards came upon a story by the Ettrick Shepherd called "Mary Burnet," and discovered that either his gipsy friend's "quite true fack" was a Romanized version of Hogg's story, or both she and Hogg had drawn from some old Scottish legend. Anyhow, the story having once appeared in print, Rossetti's interest in his "mental cartoon" began to cool, and he turned his attention to another story, "The Cup of Water"—a story which also had its birth in what he used to call "The Kelmscott Nights' Entertainments."

Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* say whether the legend referred to is still current in the neighbourhood of Llyn Ogwen, or of any other of the Welsh lakes? A collection of the Welsh lake legends would be very interesting,

and I know of no better medium for recording them than *Bye-Gones*. Will any of your correspondents take the matter up? BONNW.

REPLIES.

WELSH CONFESSIONAL IN ST. PETER'S, ROME (May 20, 1885).—I learn from a friend who visited Rome a few months ago that there is now no Welsh Confessional at St. Peter's. W.O.

ST. DAVID'S CATHEDRAL (March 16, 1887).—It is quite true that the Queen is a canon of St. David's Cathedral, where from distant days a stall has been kept for the monarch of Great Britain. In March, 1882, when the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh visited St. David's, the latter sat in the stall. G.H.B. Cardiff.

COCKSHUTT (Feb. 16, 23, Mar. 9, 23, 1887).—Having no knowledge of Welsh, I necessarily feel at a great disadvantage in contending with Mr DAVIES, but, in spite of that, I venture to continue the controversy. My courteous antagonist derives the component syllable "cock" in a variety of words from "coch," the Welsh for "red." When used as a termination, if not in other cases, I argue that it is a diminutive, the same as "ot." "Pardon me," saith Master Camden, "if I offend any, for it is but a conjecture." In like manner, I must plead for forgiveness, for I do not profess to be cock-sure. By the way, what is the meaning of cock-sure? Johnson, in his dictionary, says that "cock" in composition signifies "small" or "little," and consequently "cock sure" might mean "rather sure," a contemptuous utterance. Not that this is my interpretation of the expression. Compare, however, cockebelle, a word that is found in Trevisa's version of Higden (i. 219), finished A.D. 1387, and there translated by "nola," which is the Latin for a little bell. Let us take Slocock and Grocock—two common names. Is there a trace of "red" in either of them? It is just possible that both these names had their origin in what would now be called chaff—"rather slow," a "trifle fat." Observe in this connection that the name of Grostete was once to be met with in England. One of that name was a distinguished bishop of Lincoln in the fourteenth century. Butler, in his *Hudibras*, indulging in poetical licence, twists Grostete into Grosted—

None a deeper knowledge boasted,
Since Hodge Bacon, and Bob Grosted.

I pass now to firmer ground. I admit that "ock" is a diminutive, as hillock, paddock, bullock, &c. So we have in Scotland the proper names, Willock, Lasscock, Nannock. To these examples may be added Ruddock and Dunnock, provincial names for the robin and the hedge sparrow, because the one is a little bird with a red breast, and the other a little dun bird. But what are we to say of Yeldrock, a provincial name for the Yellow Hammer? We have a right to expect "Yellock" (the little yellow bird), and behold the letters d r are interposed between "Yel" and before "ock" for no apparent reason. Then, again, Laverock, or Lavrock, is a little lark. In old days la-rk was pronounced lau-erc; then "erock," not "ock," was added; and lau-erc-erock in due course became Laverock and Lavrock. No doubt "ock" is a

diminutive, but it is susceptible of additions. I fancy myself that the letter "c" was sometimes placed before "ot." "ock" just as it is sometimes placed before "ot." Elliot and Ellicott are both diminutives from Ellis. We have Grocott as well as Grocock. Adcot and Adcock, not Adot and Adock, stand for "little Ade," or Adam. In the Nonarum Rolls, and other ancient records, Adam is almost invariably abbreviated to Ade. Similarly Hick in ancient times was the familiar term for Isaac. It is therefore no matter for surprise that the names Hiccock and Hickot are still in existence. If I am correct in regarding "cot" as synonymous with "ot," and "cock" with "ock," then Wilkot, Willott (or Willett), Wilcock (or Wilcox), and Willock, will all mean one and the same thing although variously expressed. Suppose we turn to birds for a moment. Colonel Montagu, in his Ornithological Dictionary, prefers to write of the Guillemot under the name of the Willock, and of the Watrall under the name of the Bilcock. There can be no doubt as to the derivation of Willock—it is little Will. Is Bilcock little Bill? Or is it the bird with the red bill, for the bill of the adult male is red at the base? Mr. DAVIES shall decide the question. To pass to another bird, the Judcock is a well-known name for the Jack snipe. Now there is nothing red about this bird. Is there anything little? As we all know, a Jack snipe is often called a half snipe to distinguish it from a full snipe. But what is Jud? Like Jack or Will, Jud was a pet name—it was short for Jordan. The poet Gower, alluding to Wat Tyler's insurrection, writes—

Hudde ferit, quem Judde terit, dum Tibbe juvatur,
which has been rendered by Andrews—

Hod drubs, Jud scrubs, while Tib stands grinning by.
But, to come to the point, Judcock appears to be "little Jud" as appropriate a name for the bird as "little Jack" would be. Perhaps Mr. DAVIES will say that "cock," where a bird is in question, means a cock and not a hen. That is a proposition I will examine on another occasion.

A. T. JEBB.

The Lyth, Ellesmere.

CURRENT NOTES.

Bishop Bromby has been appointed Warden of St. John's Hospital, Lichfield, but will not yet enter on his duties there.

A fine stained window has been placed in Bettws-y-Coed Church by Lady Alice Ewing to the memory of the late Lord Penrhyn.

A few days ago a keeper in the service of Mr J. Tayleur, Buntingsdale, went to examine some rabbit traps in the Dingle Cover, when he found that a large badger was caught in one of them by the leg. The animal, which is a fine one, was extricated and lodged in the kennels at Buntingsdale.

Mr Bryce, M.P., in his controversy with Sir John Lubbock on Mr Gladstone and the nationality question, concludes, from the etymology of the name, that Sir Wm. Wallace was a Welshman by race, or, what amounts to the same thing, a Strathclyde Briton. He is not aware, then, that those who have made a study of pedigrees and surnames derive Wallace from the Celtic word *Uallach*, meaning light-hearted or vain. Besides, there is every reason to believe that "Welsh" (originally *Wealhas* or *Walas*) signified nothing more than "strangers," and was

used by the Anglo-Saxons not to name any race in particular, but to indicate foreigners in general. To this very day our cousins in Germany call the Italians "Welsh" (*Waelsch*); *Waelsch* beans are French beans; a *Waelsch* cock is a turkey cock; *Waelsch* cabbage is cabbage from Savoy; *Waelsch* ways mean foreign ways; and to speak *Waelsch* (*waelschen*) means to speak so as not to be understood. On the English racecourse, also, the "Welscher" is the stranger who comes to do strange things, and who receives the treatment that "strangers" of old used to receive when they came to prowl within other folks' borders. It does not seem that "Welsh" or *Walas* indicates either race or nationality.—*Newcastle Chronicle*.

NEW MAGISTRATES FOR FLINTSHIRE.—Mr Harry William Buddicom, Penbedw Hall, Mold, and Mr J. H. Warburton Lee, Redbrook, Whitechurch, Salop, took the usual oath and qualified, at Flint Quarter Sessions last week, as magistrates for the county.

DEATH OF MR W. F. OSWELL.—We regret to record the death, which took place on Good Friday at Frankton, of Mr William Francis Oswell, eldest son of the Rev. Thomas Oswell, formerly rector of Westbury, near Shrewsbury. The deceased, who was educated at Shrewsbury School and Haileybury College, was for some years in the Honourable East India Company's service, Madras Presidency.

DEATH OF MRS. GILL OF TREWERN.—The death occurred on Thursday, in her eightieth year, of Mrs Gill, Trewern, Oswestry. The deceased lady, who was a sister of the late Mr W. W. E. Wynne, of Peniarth, and formerly of Mount Zion (now Oakhurst), near Oswestry, married the late Mr Jos. Gill, of Trewern, Oswestry, whom she survived nearly twenty years. The issue of the marriage, a daughter and two sons, survive her; the former, Mary Elizabeth, was married on May 28th, 1867, to Sir Edward Archibald Hamilton, Baronet; and the sons are Mr William Gill and Mr Philip O. Gill.

THE LATE LADY FRANCES LLOYD.—The chancel screen placed in the parish church, Oswestry, by Col. Lloyd, in memory of the late Lady Frances Lloyd, is now completed. It is taken from the design prepared by the late Mr G. E. Street for the restoration of the church, and consists of an unobtrusive railing of wrought ironwork mounted on the low substructure of stone, which has hitherto done duty for a chancel screen. The screen does not include a gate barring the passage to the chancel. The cost of the screen was £50, and, though its simplicity is admirable, tastes differ as to the desirableness of relieving the naturally sombre surface of the metal by some illumination. A brass plate affixed to the sub-structure records that the screen is erected "To the glory of God and in loving memory of the Lady Frances Lloyd, Born May 18th, 1830, Died January 31st, 1886."

DEATH OF MRS. PEMBERTON HEYWOOD.—Mrs. Pemberton Heywood of Cloverley, Shropshire, widow of Mr John Pemberton Heywood of Cloverley, and Norris Green, Liverpool, died at Cloverley, on Wednesday, after a very brief illness, at the age of seventy-four. The deceased lady, Anna Maria Heywood, was second daughter of the late Mr Hugh Jones of Lark Hill, Liverpool, a partner in the well-known banking house of Heywood and Co., now amalgamated with the Liverpool Bank. On April 21st, 1836, she was married to her cousin Mr John Pemberton Heywood, who was a member of the same banking firm. A sister of Mrs Heywood's was married to the late Mr Robertson Gladstone, brother of the ex-Premier, another sister was married to the late Mr Samuel Bright, and another is the Hon. Mrs. Denman. After

their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Heywood lived at Norris Green, Liverpool, and about the year 1870 Mr Heywood bought the Cloverley estate, which became his favourite residence. Possessed of ample means, both Mr and Mrs Heywood were munificent in their philanthropy, and scarcely a charitable institution existed in London, Liverpool, or Whitechurch, which did not participate in their benevolence, a benevolence which was continued by the deceased lady for the ten years that she survived her husband. On Nov. 28, 1864, Mrs Heywood laid the foundation stone of the new wing of the Northern Hospital in Liverpool, the cost of which was borne by Mr Heywood. Mr Heywood died in 1877, leaving an estate of two and a half millions sterling, a large portion of which descended to his nephew Mr A. P. Lonsdale, who thereupon assumed the surname of Heywood-Lonsdale. Mr Heywood-Lonsdale, who resides at Shavington, is the popular master of the Shropshire Hounds, and he now succeeds to the possession of Cloverley. It was the custom of the deceased lady to spend six months annually at Norris Green, her Liverpool residence, four months at Cloverley, and two months in London. On the Friday before her death she left Norris Green for Cloverley, and she caught a slight cold in making the journey. Dangerous symptoms did not appear until Monday, when paralysis supervened. Dr Dobey of Chester and Dr George of Whitechurch were called in, and they pronounced her recovery hopeless, and she expired in unconsciousness on Wednesday night. The remains were interred at the Corra churchyard, Cloverley, near Whitechurch, yesterday.

A FEMALE DIVINER AT CHESTER.—In a charge of theft heard at the Chester City Police Court, last week, the prosecutrix, Mrs Eliza Richardson, of the Prince Albert Inn, Egerton-street, Chester, said she spoke to prisoner (Annie Bennion) about the loss, who said she (prosecutrix) would soon find out where the money was if she would go to a person named Watson, who could read through a glass and tell her who had got it. (Laughter.) She was foolish enough to proceed to Mrs Watson's house in Tasker's entry, where she looked through the glass. Mrs Watson said there were two persons "in it"—a charwoman and a lady-like person, but she would not get the money.—Martha Watson said she was a widow, and lived in Tasker's entry, and had seen prisoner once or twice before. Prisoner came to her house and told her she wanted her to "work" for her. Prisoner said prosecutrix had missed some money, and witness was to say that another woman who had been lodging in the house had got the money, but that she (Bennion) owned to taking £1. Witness was to receive 2s. for what she had told Mrs Richardson. Prosecutrix then came to the house in half an hour afterwards, and witness told her to look through the glass, which was a magnifying one. She did so. (Laughter.)—Prisoner was arrested by an officer of the city force, and admitted taking the money.—The Bench said prisoner was liable to three months' imprisonment for the offence, but, looking at the fact that there was temptation placed before her, they inflicted a fine of 40s., and costs, or fourteen days' imprisonment, with hard labour.

OUR SUMMER VISITANTS.

"One swallow does not make a summer" is an old saying, and a very true one, as the poor birds found to their cost when hundreds of them perished from want of food and cold during those days last year, and it rained without ceasing for sixty hours, but still when the first note of the chiffchaff is heard we begin to think that at any rate spring is now nigh at hand. On looking through my diary of last year I find that this our first harbinger

of spring was first heard by me on March 25th, while this year, last Sunday, April 10, I first heard its welcome note. The chiffchaff is a bird of weak flight, and were it to try to cross the channel in a gale of wind it would certainly be blown out to sea and drowned. The instinct that moves birds to come back to their native land year after year, and often to the identical spot, is beyond human powers to understand. Swallows and martens we know come back and repair the identical nest that they have left the autumn of the year before, and most birds, migrants or not migrants, even if they do not come back to the self-same spot, often build within a few yards of it. A keeper in Scotland told me that his master had left three grouse out of a brood of seven or eight. In the following year the nest was placed within three yards of where it had been the year before, and the next year there was a nest not more than five yards from the same spot. I am sure I have heard my little friend the chiffchaff, or some members of his family, for the last ten years almost in the self-same spot. TANTARA.

LLANGOLLEN CHURCH BELLS.

The *Llangollen Parish Magazine* states that on March 19th, the old church bells where taken from the tower by Messrs Taylor and Co. of Loughborough, for the purpose of being re-cast and developed into a full peal of eight musical bells to commemorate the Jubilee of our gracious Queen's accession to the Throne of England. The oldest bell bore the following inscription:—"David Lloyd, John Hughes, Edward ap Edward, Wardens, 1697," and weighed exactly 5 cwt. 0 qr. 26 lbs. This was called "the old bell," and said to be "all made of silver," or some other metal still more precious, but it was really made of tin and copper like other bells. The next bell weighed exactly 7 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lbs., and bore the inscription:—"Tho. Edwards; Da: Hughes; Hen. Jones, Wardens, 1722." The next bell weighed 3 cwt. 3 qrs. 8 lbs., and bore the inscription:—"Cast at Gloucester by Abel Rudhall, 1759." The youngest of the four weighed 4 cwt. 3 qrs. 15 lbs., and bore the following inscription:—"Success to the family of the Rudhalls, 1762." In the year 1697, one "William Hughes" was vicar of the parish. In the year 1722, "Henry Charles, M.A.," and in the years 1759 and 1762, "Robert Price, M.A.," were vicars. The oldest bell is only 190 years old. It is recorded that about this time the "new stone stiple" took the place of a wooden structure. Judging from the old oak which has lately been cleared out of the tower, and which bears evident structural marks of having been previously used, it may be fairly inferred that the timber of the old wooden tower was used up in the construction of the "new stone stiple." This will add several hundred years to the interest which now attaches itself to the old bells. The old bells are not quite 200 years old, but the old oak beams which carried these bells bear clear signs of being even then very old. If taken from the old oak tower to construct the "new stone stiple," this oak must be centuries older than what has hitherto gone by the name of "the old bell."

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

At the Cardiganshire Quarter Sessions last week, it was resolved on the motion of Col. Pryse, Lord Lieutenant, that a humble and dutiful address be presented to her Majesty, congratulating her on the completion of her fifty years' reign.

At the Carnarvonshire Quarter Sessions, on Wednesday, Mr F. W. Lloyd-Edwards presiding, the Lord-Lieutenant of the county (Mr J. E. Greaves) proposed that the Bench should offer to her Majesty a loyal address,

congratulating her upon the attainment of the fiftieth year of her reign. In moving the resolution he suggested that a committee should be appointed to draw up the address. The Chairman seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, and a committee was appointed.

A curious coincidence in connection with the Queen's Jubilee has been the finding of a commemorative medal of the Jubilee year of George III. Joseph Baker, a house decorator, of Willenhall, was engaged in renovating a ceiling in the house of Mr Shelley, a butcher, High-street, Willenhall, when some of the plaster fell down and loosened what seemed to be a piece of old iron. On being cleaned, however, it was found to be a small brass medal, bearing on one side a crown and sceptre. A long ribbon attached to the medal bore on one side the words, "Commemoration George III. accession 50, K and S;" and on the other side the inscription, "Grand National Jubilee, celebrated October 25, 1809, the King having entered the fiftieth year of his reign."

OSWESTRY WOMEN'S JUBILEE FUND.

The sum collected in the borough of Oswestry and surrounding district amounted to £115 11s 9d.

MERIONETHSHIRE.

An influential county meeting was held at the Town Hall, Bala, on Tuesday, April 5th, the High Sheriff (Colonel Evans-Lloyd) in the chair.

Mr R. D. PRYCE, the Lord Lieutenant, in moving "That a loyal and dutiful address be presented to her Majesty on behalf of the inhabitants of the county of Merioneth, expressive of their heartfelt congratulation on the attainment of the 50th year of her beneficent reign, and also of their loyalty and attachment to her throne and person," said he was afraid he could carry his memory back further than most of them could, for he not only remembered the rejoicings on the occasion of her Majesty's marriage in 1840, but those attending her coronation on June 28th, 1838. Those demonstrations were on a scale of munificence such as he believed have not been seen before or since. But what should be the outburst of popular feeling on the occasion of the Jubilee of her reign? (Hear, hear.) When they considered all that had been done in that long reign, the blessings and the moral and material advantages which the people had enjoyed, they could not be surprised that there should be a fervent desire that the Jubilee year should be observed as a year of thanksgiving and rejoicing. (Cheers.) The sentiment of personal loyalty was nowhere more deeply rooted, and there was no part of the empire in which her Majesty was more beloved and more honoured than in the Principality. (Cheers.) Her Majesty had resolutely trod the path of duty, she had been loyal in the highest degree to her subjects, and by that conduct she had earned a name which would endure in the pages of history as that of the most constitutional sovereign who had ever sat on the British throne. (Cheers.) In domestic life her Majesty afforded the brightest example, and she had a womanly tenderness for all the afflicted and distressed. (Cheers.)

Mr LLOYD PRICE, of Rhiwlas, in seconding the motion, said the Queen was popular with high and low.

The motion was supported by the Rev R. JONES and the Rev D. C. EDWARDS, and carried unanimously.

The HIGH SHERIFF said he had received letters explaining their absence from the Rev Ellis Edwards, the Rev H. C. Williams, of Corwen, the Rev T. J. Wheldon, and Mr Reveley.

Mr JOHN VAUGHAN, of Nannau, moved, and it was seconded by Mr OWEN SLANEY WYNNE (who said the people of Wales, whatever different views they entertained on politics or religion, would join

in celebrating the Jubilee of the Queen), "That it be referred to a committee, consisting of the High Sheriff, the Lord-Lieutenant, and the Chairman of Quarter Sessions, to prepare such address and make all necessary arrangements for its presentation, and that the address be signed by the High Sheriff on behalf of the inhabitants of the county."

A vote of thanks having been accorded the High Sheriff, Mr H. ROBERTSON said he desired to bring forward a method by which the meeting could give practical effect to their loyalty. Though it might be called a local object, it was also a county object, for it would be beneficial to the whole county. What he desired to solicit attention to was the higher education of the youth of the county. The Bala Grammar School had been greatly distinguished for its success. In order to extend the usefulness of that school the governors were about to enlarge it, and were seeking subscriptions with that end in view, and his proposition was that that meeting and the people of Bala should show their loyalty in a practical form by subscribing towards that extension, so that they would have at Bala, one of the county towns, a visible and permanent memorial of the Jubilee year. His proposition was, "That a humble address be presented to her Majesty requesting her to allow the Grammar School at Bala in future to bear the name of the Victoria Grammar School, that the additional wing to be erected be in celebration of the Victorian Jubilee year, and that subscriptions be solicited for that object."

Dr HUGHES seconded the motion.

Mr LLOYD PRICE, though as a Governor of the School he entirely approved of the motion, said he thought it would be well to consider the question at leisure, as it was not on the notice convening the meeting, nor were the people of Bala aware that the proposal was to be made.

After some discussion Mr Robertson's motion was put to the meeting and carried by a large majority.

MEETING AT WELSHPOOL.

A meeting was held in the Town Hall, on Saturday, when the Mayor (Mr T. R. Morris) was in the chair, to consider the best means of celebrating the Jubilee of her Majesty's reign. Among those present were the Town Clerk (Mr E. Jones), Aldermen E. Maurice Jones, W. Rogers, W. A. Rogers, G. D. Harrison, Councillors W. Withy, R. Hurst, D. Richards, C. Mytton, G. E. Davies, David Jones, G. Jones, J. H. Rider, Messrs. C. E. Howell, R. L. Gwilt, S. Copnall, J. Sandywell, D. Wall, W. Collender, D. P. Owen, T. Simpson Jones, F. Roper, C. Galloway, J. H. Anderson, W. H. Jones, R. T. Owen, J. Morris, H. Lloyd, T. Withy, &c.—The Mayor said that many towns had taken the Jubilee question up very heartily, and he did not see why Welshpool should not follow suit. The Corporation had received a letter from the Friendly Societies, stating that on the Jubilee day they would like to fall into procession with the members of the Council to attend the Parish Church, and had replied saying that they would be glad of their company. There was another matter which they would not deal with that day. The Corporation had received a communication from Mr M. C. Jones, the Gunrog, with reference to the Museum and Library. (Cheers.) It seemed that there was a clause in their deeds which, when they felt inclined to dispose of the Museum and Library to the Corporation, gave them the power to do so, but they (the Council) had not taken any steps in the matter beyond appointing a deputation to wait on Mr Jones, and they would have to call a town's meeting before any steps could be taken. He called upon the ex-Mayor (Mr W. A. Rogers) to propose the first resolution.—Mr W. A. Rogers said they could not celebrate the

Jubilee without having a feed for the poor people. He thought that would be the first thing they could do, and he moved that refreshments be provided for adults of every description, and afterwards for the children, on the 21st June, it being left to the committee to decide upon the time most convenient for providing the refreshments. He would like to see the thing done well, with beef and beer for those who like it, and for the abstainers something more to their taste. (Hear, hear.) He thought that was the first thing they had to do. (Cheers.)—Mr D. Pryce Owen in seconding the motion said he had with him the programme of the rejoicings which took place when the Princess Victoria and her mother, the Duchess of Kent, visited Powis Castle. He thought that they might learn something from the old pieces of satin. He had a similar programme of the rejoicings which took place at Her Majesty's Coronation. He did not think that the Jubilee was going to be celebrated by one greater proof of loyalty and attachment than the thorough determination of all men to keep up the Imperial Federation of this country. (Cheers.) He thought the Imperial Institute idea was a little too far fetched, but he would like that a small portion of their subscriptions should be sent to it, because he would like all parts of the country to be represented. He had very great pleasure in seconding the proposal of the ex-Mayor. (Cheers.)—The motion was carried unanimously.—Mr G. E. Davies proposed the next resolution "That bands be engaged for the day, that the town be decorated, and that bell ringing and cannon firing be kept up during the day, and that sports, dancing, and other amusements be kept up during the evening."—Mr C. Galloway seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.—Alderman W. Rogers said there was a general expectation that the poor would be feasted, but he hoped that something further would be done in the way of extending the usefulness of the Dispensary which was at present carried on at an expense of £180 per annum. He thought that if the inhabitants of the town would subscribe annually a sufficient sum would be raised to put two or three extra beds in the Dispensary, make an additional building and carry it on as a Cottage Hospital. There was some £1,200 in the hands of the Dispensary authorities. He had great pleasure in proposing the resolution that the following gentlemen be placed on the general committee, with power to add to their number, and elect sports and other committees:—The members of the Council, the Vicar and Ministers of all denominations, the Borough Justices, Mr M. C. Jones, Gungrog, Captain Westby, Colonel Huddleston, Mr P. A. D. Lovell, Lieutenant-Colonel Twyford, Mr W. F. Addie, Mr Thos. Morris, Mr Chas. Jones, Mr Alexander Davies, Mr C. E. Howell, Mr W. S. Clarke, Dr. Sowerby, the Schoolmasters, and the principal tradesmen and inhabitants of the town.—Mr David Jones seconded the motion.—The motion, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.—Mr David Richards proposed the next resolution, which was as follows: "To modernise the Cross Pump by converting it into a drinking fountain and adding to it a better system of lighting, and to improve the approach from the station into the town of Welshpool by lowering and widening the canal bridge." (Cheers.)—Mr W. Withy seconded the resolution, and said that with the railway station they would be able to see any improvements that might be carried out. They would have a pathway all the way to the station the same as in the town. (Cheers.)—Mr R. L. Gwilt and Mr G. D. Harrison supported the motion.—Mr Harrison said that the rival schemes that were suggested, such as the Cottage Hospital, were very

carefully considered by the Council, but they felt that if they erected a Cottage Hospital it would need permanent support, which it would possibly not get. They were not going to do away with the old Cross Pump, and destroy the memory of the gentleman who so kindly presented it to the town. They simply proposed to improve it, and to make it a little more useful than it was at present. He most heartily supported the resolution proposed by Mr Richards. (Cheers.)—Mr Charles Howell suggested an addition to Mr Richards's motion, that the roadway from the station might be improved by the planting of trees.—Mr Harrison said it might be well to relieve the anxious minds of some gentlemen with regard to the Leighton-road by saying that it was the determination of the Council to erect a footbridge there as soon as possible.—The motion was carried unanimously.—Mr E. M. Jones proposed the next resolution. He was pleased to see the unanimity which had existed there that day, and also at the last meeting of the Council. There had been some schemes proposed which at one time had threatened to be very conflicting, but no very violent results had followed. They recommended the only practical scheme within their reach, and he did not think that the inhabitants would be asked to do more than could reasonably be done on such an auspicious occasion. One of the great features of the occasion, he believed, would be the presentation to the Corporation of that splendid building and its contents, which they knew as the Powysland Museum. It was a munificent gift, and would distinguish Welshpool from almost every other part of the Principality, and if the inhabitants accepted that gift, he thought they would be one of the first towns in the Principality to have a free library. He was glad to tell them that Mr Naylor conveyed an intimation to the Town Council that if something was done so that people might pass dry shod into Welshpool in times of flood he would assist it. They all knew what it meant when Mr Naylor was prepared to do something—that he would do something very handsome. (Cheers.) He proposed "That subscriptions be invited to carry out the foregoing resolutions, and that the town be divided into sections by the general committee." (Cheers.)—Mr Hurst seconded the motion. If they had energetic collectors they would have no difficulty in giving effect to the resolutions that had been duly carried, and he hoped the collectors would put their shoulders to the wheel and get in the money as fast as possible. (Cheers.)—Mr E. M. Jones said that mention having been made of the outlying districts, he wished to say that they were prepared to receive anything from the extreme boundaries of Welshpool, and to work together as far as they could. (Cheers.)—The motion was put and carried unanimously.—Mr E. Jones, town clerk, was appointed treasurer, and Mr W. H. Jones, Westwood, and Mr T. Simpson Jones, Gungrog, were appointed secretaries.—The Mayor said he must tender the meeting his most sincere thanks for the way in which they had carried the resolutions. He hoped they would have fair weather, and would enjoy themselves very much on the Jubilee day.—Mr D. P. Owen proposed, and Mr C. E. Howell seconded, a vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding, which was briefly acknowledged, and the meeting separated.

APRIL 20, 1887.

NOTES.

DOUCHING.—A CURIOUS CUSTOM.—A curious and somewhat inconvenient custom seems to have prevailed at Towyn, Merioneth, some half a century ago.

On May Day young men lay in wait with pailfuls of water, and, when a young woman made her appearance on the street, the water was thrown over her. On the 12th May, old May Day, the women returned the compliment, and doused the men. This custom prevailed about fifty-five years ago. Shortly after that time a somewhat delicate girl was driving into Towyn from Dolgelley with a companion, when a pailful of water was thrown over her. The shock was so great that it ultimately caused her death, and this catastrophe led to the discontinuance of the custom. MEIRION.

FOLK LORE.—CURE FOR CRAMP.—A lady friend who lives in a mountain village in Denbighshire, far away from the sound of the railway whistle, but who does not wish her name to appear in print, told me the following tale. A short time ago she suffered much from cramp in the stomach, and she complained to a neighbour of her pains. To her great delight the neighbour said that she knew a remedy for her ailment, and one which she, the neighbour, had often resorted to with complete success, and not only did the prescription cure, but it also prevented cramp. This was just the very thing that my friend wished to procure. The wonderful remedy was simple enough in all conscience, for it was—"When you take your shoes off before going to bed, place them with the top downwards before the fire, and you will never suffer from cramps." She also added that sometimes she forgot to place her shoes in the required position, but that her husband, good, kind man, always put them right before he came to bed, and that by his kind thoughtfulness and her own carefulness she was entirely free from her old enemy the cramp. I do not know whether my informant resorted to this simple cure, but if she has not done so, I strongly advise her to try it, and I would also give a hint to my friend, her husband, to take care before he retires for the night that his good wife's shoes are properly placed before the fire. E.O.

Denbighshire.

QUERIES.

COATS OF ARMS.—I shall be grateful if any of your readers will kindly supply the arms of any of the following, which I need for an Illuminated Pedigree of the Pulestons of Emral, co. Flint:—

Bayley or Bailey of Wistaston, co. Chester, Staveley Hall, Harkelow Manor (one married a Jervis of Darlestone, Staffs.)

Jervis of Darlestone, Staffs.

Pryse or Pierce of Sweeney

Hughes of Tilly

Arden of Aldford (?), Cheshire

Kynne of Maidford, co. Northampton

Askewe of Blifford, co. Northampton

Oldbury of Wikyn, Salop

Roydon of Iscoed

Hope of Queenhope, Ireland

Sir M. Whitechurch, Ireland

Poynes of Acton, co. Armagh

Lloyd of Wigginton, Glan-y-wern, Salop

Lloyd of Llwynknottia

Evans of Northop, Flint

Madocks of Ruthin (Bodvari)

Saunders of Abymbury, co. Denbigh

Yardley of Farndon, Cheshire

Phillips of Poulton, co. Chester
Bruyn of Stapleford, Ches.
Dymock of Willington and Acton

Price of Rhiwlas

Lewis of Burcote, Oxon

Madoc Vychan of Machambyd

Grono ap Jenkin ap Eignio of Bryn Gwyn in Evionydd

Griffith ap Llewellyn ap Griffith of Llyn

David ap Jenkin ap David Crach

Meredith ap Kenrick ap Meredith of Porthamel

Llewellyn ap Ednevet Gam ap Jorwerth Voel of Halghton

Jevan ap Madoc ap Llewellyn ap Gruff of Eyton

Jenkin ap Rhys

Thomas ap Robyn

Powel of Kestrine

Also will any reader explain why I find the three following coats of arms, all different, ascribed to Broughton :—In Herald Vis., 1623, in Shrewsbury Museum, arg. two bars gules on a canton of the 1st, a saltire of the 2nd. In the pedigree of the Cookes of Owston, ermine a lion ramp. sa. armed and langued gules. Elsewhere (I forget where), sa. 3 nags' heads erased arg. Which is correct? E. E. THOMTS.

Sulhamstead Park, Reading.

REPLIES.

ANCIENT TENURES OF LAND IN THE MARCHES OF WALES (March 2, 1887).—I have made inquiries in the parish of Llandysilio, but can discover no trace of the fields mentioned by PEARMAN. The Rector has also been kind and courteous enough to examine the Tithe Apportionment Book of the parish, and has failed to find the fields. BONWM.

BLAEN-Y-GLYN (Feb. 23, Mar. 16, 1887).—In compliance with your request, I have tried to gather some knowledge in reference to this Query. Having no personal knowledge of that part myself, I asked an old native and former resident of the place to furnish me with what information he had; and have had from Mr Benjamin Price, of Mount Villa, Llanidloes, the following interesting account:—I can tell the locality of the first-named "Blaen-y-Glyn," associated with the Baptists; but of the other, at which an Association of the Calvinistic Methodists was held, July 3, 1745, I have no knowledge at all. It must have been, I presume, somewhere in Cardiganshire, as it was in that county and adjoining districts that Daniel Rowlands, of Llangethio, chiefly laboured, and about that time the Calvinistic Methodists began to form themselves into distinct Societies. Since receiving your note I have been looking over Rees's "History of Protestant Nonconformity in Wales," but I have not happened to notice the allusion to Blaen-y-Glyn in Dr. Evans's Statistics—collected in 1715. I have noticed in the statistics for Radnorshire, the names of Cobin, Llanddewi, Llanbadarn; Blaen-y-Glyn in Montgomeryshire; and Pentref in Brecon, and the following ministers are there named:—Nathan Davies, Caleb Evans, John Evans. These were certainly Baptist ministers. The Radnorshire branches of the Church at that time (1715), met at Cwm, in the parish of Llanddewi Ystradlay, and perhaps at other places in the county; at Pentref in Brecon; and also at Garthfawr and Blaen-y-Glyn in Montgomeryshire, but were all considered as one Church

until in 1717 Pentref Church became a separate Church. Dr. Evans names only Nathan Davies of the ministers of Cwm and its branches. Caleb and John Evans were ministers of Pentref after the separation.

Now for Blaen-y-Glyn and its history. All that I have seen in print respecting it, is, in Rev. Joshua Thomas's "History of the Welsh Baptists," page 120. All I know besides is from tradition, and personal recollection and knowledge of the place. It is on the right of the road from Llanidloes to Abbey Cwmhir, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Llanidloes, and in the parish of Llandinam. It is situated upon a small rocky knoll, at the confluence of two tiny rills, which ultimately form the Feinion brook, which falls into the Severn $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles above the village of Llandinam. When the county was densely wooded it furnished a safe retreat for the persecuted. It is a small farm, and there is now an old dilapidated house which may have been used in former times for holding meetings. There is an old yew tree on the eminence close by, which was thought to denote a burial ground; but, on the spot being examined some years ago, no remains could be found to show that such had been the case. We have no means of determining when meetings were *begun* to be held at Blaen-y-Glyn, but it is reported that meetings were held there, and at Garthfawr, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south, in the time of the Rev. Hugh Evans, who died in 1656. Meetings are reported to be held at both places at the same period; and that when Blaen-y-Glyn fell into the hands of enemies the meetings were subsequently held, chiefly if not entirely, at Garthfawr, on the south side of the present Beulah Baptist chapel, and where I and my forefathers were brought up and resided mostly. No doubt the neighbourhood was selected in those early times, on account of its remoteness and seclusion, and difficulty of access, as the residence of a few faithful Christians who found there a quiet retreat from their fierce persecutors. Such is the interesting account given by Mr. Benjamin Price.

I cannot learn that there is anything to identify that neighbourhood in the past, or the present, with Calvinistic Methodism—the neighbourhood seems to have been Baptist from time immemorial. I hear that there is a farm called Blaen-y-Glyn in Llangurig, a neighbourhood where the people now are chiefly Calvinistic Methodists, and I suppose have been so for well nigh a century. This indicates that the two Blaen-y-Glyns, referred to by your correspondent "T.H.J." in your impression of Feb. 23rd, must be entirely different places.

Newtown.

J. MOSTYN.

CURRENT NOTES.

A memorial window to Bishop Heber has been unveiled in Malpas Church. A new pulpit has been given to the Church by Mr Joseph Lewis, of The Beeches.

At a meeting of the Liverpool Welsh National Society, held last week, an address on "The Welsh Revival under the Tudors" was delivered by Professor J. E. Lloyd, B.A., Aberystwyth College.

Miss Kenyon has received permission from Sir Theodore Martin to compile from his work a popular edition of the life of the Prince Consort. This book will be issued under the title of "Albert the Good: Scenes in the Life of the Prince Consort."

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The Council of the South Wales University College Cardiff, have received a communication from the Marquis of Bute, through Lord Aberdare and Sir William Lewis, in which the Marquis makes an offer to the College authorities of a site in Cathays Park for the proposed new College.

The death is announced of the Rev. F. H. Hotham' M.A., rector of Rushbury, Church Stretton. During his rectorate, the ancient building of St. Peter's was extensively restored and beautified. Mr Hotham, who was much beloved by his parishioners, was the second son of the late Admiral Sir Henry Hotham, K.C.B., and the Lady Frances Hotham.

An Ecclesiastical Commission sat at Colwyn Bay on Saturday, at the request of the Bishop of St. Asaph, to hear complaints made by Mr Wm. Price, Rhos Abbey Hotel, against the Vicar of Llandrillo-yn-Rhos that he did not give adequate services for the Welsh parishioners. After evidence had been taken, the Commissioners said they would report to the Bishop.

After having undergone thorough restoration, the church of All Saints, Clive, a Norman structure, was reopened last week by the Bishop of Lichfield. The ceremony of consecrating the newly-erected portions, comprising chancel, organ chamber, and vestry, was performed by the Bishop. At the services there were full congregations. Mr C. J. Ferguson of Carlisle is the architect.

The *Cambrian News* says it was reported at the last meeting of the Lampeter Board of Guardians that Mrs Mary Davies, the "Lampeter juvenile pauper," had died since the last meeting of the Board, at the age of 104 years. She was born at Gwngodfawr, in the parish of Llanddewi Brefi, in 1783. When she was forty-nine years of age she married Mr Thomas Davies, Blaenau, in the neighbouring parish of Llanyerwys. She had been confined to her bed for the last six or eight months, getting up occasionally to sit in a chair in the room. She looked remarkably well up to within a short time of her death. She could read her Welsh Bible, and her mind in fact seemed to be absorbed in religious subjects.

The marriage of Sir William M. Curtis of Caynham Court, Ludlow, to Miss Mabel Gurney, fourth daughter of Mr Somerville A. Gurney of North Runcion Hall, near Lynn, Norfolk (a partner in the firm of Messrs Gurney, Buxton, and Co.), took place on Thursday, amidst much rejoicing. The wedding ceremony was performed in Middleton Church by the Hon. and Rev. J. Harbord, assisted by the Rev W. H. Gurney (uncles of the bride). There was a very large congregation. After the ceremony the bridal party returned to North Runcion Hall, where a four o'clock tea was served in the drawing-room, when upwards of 150 guests were invited. Amongst the numerous presents were an old silver inkstand and writing suite, by the members of the Ludlow Hunt, and a hunting crop with silver ferrule round an horn handle, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Sir William M. Curtis, Bart., by the servants of the Ludlow Hunt, on his marriage, April 14, 1887." The family crest is also engraved thereon. A silver hunting horn, with a similar inscription on the bell of the horn, and in the centre the family crest, was also presented by the servants of the Hunt.

Last week, at the Holywell Police Court, Owen Perry, a private in the Manchester Regiment, now stationed at Ashton-under-Lyne, was brought up in custody, charged with being a deserter. The prisoner, who had served about twelve years in the Army, and wore badges for

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good conduct, deserted on the 21st March, and his whereabouts were not discovered until the attention of the authorities was called to the extraordinary doings of a soldier at Ffynongroew, about six miles from Holywell. The prisoner, it would seem, whilst serving in the last Egyptian war had a dream that under a stone on a certain spot on the Mostyn and Gronant road, about two miles from the former place, an immense amount of treasure lay hidden. On returning to England he absconded from his regiment, and resorted to the spot which was familiar to him in his youth, and there for many days he and some friends he had made have been burrowing for the treasure, which has not yet seen light. Large crowds assembled to witness the operations of the party, and especially at the commencement of each day's work, when Perry conducted a peculiar kind of service or incantation. When arrested as a deserter, Perry asserted that he was the "prodigal," and that he was returning to his father's home. In his pocket were found medals for the campaigns in Afghanistan and Egypt, and the Khedive's Cross, but he refused to wear them upon his breast, asserting that they were but "dross," and emblems of the "pumps and vanities of this wicked world." Since his arrest the prisoner has refused all kinds of solid food, and subsisted only on tea and warm milk. He was remanded awaiting a military escort to take him back to his regiment.

THE BURMESE BELL AT THE BARRACKS, WREXHAM.—The valuable Burmah trophy (Pagoda bell) recently received from the 1st battalion (Mandalay), has been erected in front of the officers' quarters at the dépôt barracks, on a massive and ornamental framework of Burmese teak wood, the up-rights and cross-bar being carved, and resting on a stone and concrete foundation. The bell, which has been successfully hung by Messrs Garnett and Co., of Chester, weighs 10 cwt. and is of very valuable bell metal. The bell will be a souvenir of the part taken by the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in the Burmese campaign.

BELLRINGING AT WREXHAM.—On Easter Monday three ringers from Chester, and one from Manchester, paid a visit to Wrexham, and, assisted by the Wrexham band, rang a true and complete peal of "Grandsire Caters," consisting of 5,021 changes, in three hours and nineteen minutes. The peal was composed by the late John Cox, and, conducted by Mr James Moulton, the ringers stood as follows:—Treble, Charles Price, Eccleston; 2nd, James Moulton; 3rd, John Ellis, Wrexham; 4th, Joseph Williams, Wrexham; 5th, Edward Rowland, Wrexham; 6th, A. Cross, Chester; 7th, Josiah Rogers, Manchester; 8th, Thomas Newell, Wrexham; 9th, Henry Evans, Wrexham; tenor, James Kendrick, Wrexham. The foregoing were all members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, with the exception of Josiah Rogers, who is a member of the Royal Cumberland Society, and the peal was rung to commemorate the birthday of the ringer of the third bell, Mr John Ellis, his brother-ringers wishing him "many happy returns of the day!"

ANCIENT MEDICINES, &c.—The following extracts, from an ancient book which I have come across, may be amusing, if not instructive. The book is dated 1636, with the title "A Closet for Ladies and Gentlemen or the Art of Preserving, &c., with the manner how to make divers kinds of Sirups, &c. Also divers Sovereigne Medicines, &c." London, Iohn Haviland.

For to helpe a drunken Man or Woman for ever.

Give him a purgation; after that give him a Swallow to drinke in powder for the space of twelve dayes, and for a months space give him every day foure Almonds to eat, with

foure leaves of Woodbine beaten: you must eat them in the morning next your heart: proved.

For the Gout.

Take a fat Whelpe of a Hound, scald him like a Pig: Garbage him in the Side: then take Red Nettles stamped with two ounces of Brimstone, four ounces of Turpentine, foure yolkes of Egges: stuffe the belly, and sew it up; rost it with a soft fire: Save the dripping. Annoint the place: it is good for sinews and cramp; it will drive it away: for the like effect, Oyle, Nettles, White Wine, boyle them, apply them hot.

For the Tooth-ache.

Allom as bigge as a Walnut, Garlicke an handfull, twenty beans, an handfull of Bay-Salt, Pepper; beat it together; lay it to the Wrists foure and twentie houres or more.

For one that is taken within the body, or any place.

Take Rose-Cakes, Aqua vite, and Rose-Water; beat it on a Chafing-dish of Coales; lay it to the Stomacke; they shall mend by God's Grace.

The following remedy is also given for a child's complaint:—

Take three or foure hive-Bees: kill them; then drie them upon hot slate: being thorow-dry, bruise them to small powder; then put the powder in a quart of small Ale, and give the Sickie to drinke, and he shall have present remedie.

I have not at present time to send more of the remedies in vogue 250 years ago, but the ancient "Closet" contains numerous others equally interesting. K. G. SALTER.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Another interesting and valuable Part (1 of Vol. 21) of the *Mont. Collections* lies before us. It opens with the "Ancient Charters of the Borough of Montgomery," in the original and translated, which is followed by "Powys in the Time of the Romans," founded upon Mr W. Thompson Watkin's "Roman Cheshire." The paper is full of useful notes as to Roman stations, &c., and concludes with a fresh discussion of the site of Mediolanum. The conclusion favoured by the writer is that there were two Mediolanums, of which Chesterton may have been one (that of the Tenth Iter), and Clawdd Coch (at the junction of the Tanat and the Vyrnwy, and near the Roman mines on Llanymynech Hill) was probably the other. Mr Richard Williams continues his interesting "History of Llanbrynmair," from which we learn that up to the year 1850 flannel to the value of £8,000 was annually manufactured in the parish; and there is also a continuation of Mr Lloyd Owen's "Cyfeiliog Pedigrees," and the "Pedigrees of Montgomeryshire" (in an appendix.) One of these traces the genealogy of Morgan Gwynn of Llan Idlos up to Adam, through Æneas, Jupiter, Noah, and Methuselah; but such fanciful pedigrees, we suppose, are not uncommon in Wales. The present writer possesses one, which came to him from a relative, in which his descent is carried, also through Æneas, up to Adam. To show the judicious variety which the Editors introduce (in contrast to too many archaeological publications) we may mention the remarkable "Search after the History of a Spoon," in which "M.C.J." made some curious discoveries connecting the Plowden family with an innkeeper at Pool Quay; and Mr J. Bickerton Morgan's "Land and Freshwater Shells of Montgomeryshire." Another paper is the "House of Brogyntyn" by the Rev. George Sandford, who perhaps speaks rather too absolutely when he says that Owain Brogyntyn became Lord of Edeirnion (see discussion in Vol. 1 of *Bye-Gones*); and, to mention last what is very far from least in importance, there is the first part of "Early Montgomeryshire Wills at Somerset House, &c.," extracted by Mr H. L. Squires and Mr E. Rowley Morris, and annotated by the Rev W. V. Lloyd. Mr Morris and Mr Squires must have taken immense pains with the great mass of material

which passed through their hands, and antiquaries will feel themselves placed under a heavy debt of obligation by the compilation of these careful abstracts. These old wills cast a good deal of light on family history, the manners and customs, the personal names, the value of money, &c., in former times; and there is a good deal of work to be done on the same lines—but there are not many workers like Mr Morris and Mr Squires!

Mr Elliot Stock has published *Some Historical Notices of the O'Meaghers of Ikerrin* by Mr Joseph Casimir O'Meagher, who dedicates it to "The Cinel Meachair at Home and Abroad." This little genealogical work is got up in tasteful style, and embellished with several illustrations; some in colours, representing the uniforms of Irish regiments in foreign service in the last century. The O'Meaghers played a considerable part in Irish history, and as early as the beginning of the 15th century it is written—

Mightily have they filled the land,
The O'Meachairs, the territory of Uí Cairin,
A tribe at the foot of the Bearnan Eile;
It is no shame to celebrate their triumph.

The *Dedication of Books*, by H. B. Wheatley, is the latest publication of the tasteful "Book-Lover's Library," issued by Mr Elliot Stock. A cynic has here a mine of material, and it is not pleasant to see how many men of talent and even genius have grovelled in the dust. The lowest depth of degradation was reached after the Restoration, when the dissolute king and his mistresses and their children were addressed as possessed of incomparable virtues, or little less than divinities. Thus a writer named Crowne has these impious lines to the King—

You, sir, such blessings to the world dispense,
We scarce perceive the use of Providence;

And Lady's "Dumb Lady" is dedicated to Lord Limerick, one of Charles's sons by the Duchess of Cleveland—

When I began to write this dedication my hand shook, a fear possessed me, and I trembled; my pen fell from me, and my whole frame grew disordered as if blasted with some sudden upstart comet. Such awe and reverence waits on dignity, that I now find it fit for me to wish I had been refused the honour of my dedication, rather than undertake a task so much too great for me.

Even worse than this is Duffett's dedication of the "Spanish Rogue" to Nell Gwyn—

Not contented to be safe in the barren praise of doing no ill, but so readily and so frequently doing good, as if it were not your nature, but your business, that next to your beauty these virtues are the greatest miracle of the age.

And of the same lady Mrs Behn says—

So excellent and perfect a creature as yourself differs only from the divine powers in this: the offerings made to you ought to be worthy of you, whilst they accept the will alone.

Even Otway has a fulsome address to the Duchess of Portsmouth; but the indecent Wycherley satirized all this offensive adulation by dedicating his "Plain Dealer" to a procuress. It is pleasant to turn from the disgraceful time of Charles II. to later days, and to such dedications as Mill's to his wife, or Dean Stanley's to his mother. One of the most beautiful of all is Coventry Patmore's to his wife, with which we conclude—

This Poem
is inscribed

to
the memory of Her

By whom and for whom I became a poet.

The *History of Berkshire*, by Lieutenant-Colonel Cooper King, is a welcome addition to the series of "Popular County Histories" which Mr Elliot Stock is publishing. Berkshire has been the scene of many stirring events; it

contains the castle where English monarchs have resided ever since the Norman Conquest; and more than of any other county it may be said that to tell its history is to tell the history of England. Colonel Cooper King has done justice to his subject, and the result is a book which will be read with interest by others besides Berkshire men. He has avoided the mistake into which some so-called county historians have fallen, of writing a discursive guide-book or a series of parish histories. He treats the county as a whole, and gives us a connected narrative from the earliest times, beginning with the palæolithic inhabitants of the Thames Valley, and ending with the railways of to-day. How much is there between, of the rise and fall of kings, the struggles of their subjects, the romance of common life! It is a stirring story which Col. King has to tell us, and much of it lies in the battle field, where the gallant author seems most at home, and writes with all the advantage of military knowledge, though never in the spirit of a partisan. Indeed we are struck by the singular impartiality of the historian, and only a shrewd critic can decide whether Colonel Cooper King's sympathies are with the King or the Parliament in the Cromwellian wars. These histories are designed to be popular. The writer has not accepted this, as some do, as an excuse for scamping his work; but he has remembered that a popular history must be interesting to the general reader, and that it is not his place to cater for pedants and Dryasdusts. Ghosts are introduced, and ghosts, indeed, are quite orthodox in county histories, but it is not often we get one more remarkable than the ghost of Lady Hoby—

She is represented with a "very white face and hands, and attired in the dress of a widow lady of her rank at that period—coif, weeds, and wimple." "In this dress she is still supposed to haunt a bedroom, where she appears with a self-supported basin moving before her, in which she is perpetually trying to wash her hands; but it is remarkable that the apparition is always in the negative, the black part white, the white black. The legend is, that because her child William Hoby could not write without making blots, she beat him to death. It is remarkable that twenty years ago, in altering the window shutter, a quantity of children's copy books of the time of Elizabeth were discovered pushed into the rubble between the joists of the floor; and that one of these was a copy-book which answered exactly to the story, as if the child could not write a single line without a blot."

It is mentioned—though not exactly as an excuse for beating a stupid child to death!—that this lady was learned enough to write the epitaph of her husband in Greek, Latin, and English, of which one couplet is—

Give me, O God, a husband like unto Thomas,
Or else restore me to my husband Thomas.

Within a year a second Sir Thomas (Russell) had been accepted as her second husband. Of another lady, the daughter of John Kendrick of Reading, a diverting story is told in verse—

Though rich, she could not find the man she chose to marry,
until,

"Being at a noble wedding
In the famous town of Reading,
A young gentleman she saw,
Who belonged to the law;"

and therefore determined that, lawfully or unlawfully, she would convert him into her lord.

So the gentleman in question, Benjamin Child, barrister-at-law, was challenged by a person unknown; and, on going to Calcott Park, was met by a masked lady, who, with the courage of a determined woman, tells him he must

"Either fight or marry me,"
Said he, "Madam, pray what mean ye!
In my life I ne'er have seen ye;
Pray unmask, your visage show;
Then I'll tell you, ay or no."

But the lady meant to have her own way as long as she could

"I will not my face uncover
Till the marriage rites are over;
Therefore take you which you will—
Wed me, sir, or try your skill."

The barrister, unaccustomed to such determined pleading, resigned himself a captive to her courage, if not to her unknown charms. Married they were, and proceeded to Calcott House, where she leaves him for a while; but, returning unmasked, tells him:

"Sir, my servants have related,
That some hours you have waited
In my parlour; tell me who
In this house you ever knew?"

And he, not unnaturally puzzled, explains that:

"Madam, if I have offended,
It is more than I intended.
A young lady brought me here,
'That is true,' said she, 'my dear.'"

Thus the briefless barrister became lord of Calcott Hall and of its mistress, whom he seems to have loved and lamented. Amongst Berkshire superstitions Colonel King quotes "a notion that a ring made from a piece of silver collected at the communion is a cure for fits." The same belief was prevalent in Wales, and in his "Old Stone Crosses of the Vale of Clwyd," the Rev. Elias Owen states that within the last thirty years the Rev. J. D. Edwards, vicar of Rhosymedre, humoured the wishes of some of his parishioners by giving them silver coins for this purpose. Col. King does not tell us as much as we should like about the dialect of Berkshire; but he gives a few specimens, and he quotes the amusing verses from Mr Thomas Hughes's "Scouring of the White Horse," where a Berkshire man meets two lasses, and having asked one—

"Be you engaged to arra young man,"

is staggered by the reply—

"I beant engaged to narra young man,
I solemnly declare;
I aims to live a may-den,
And still the laurel wear."

The story proceeds—

Zays I, "My stars and garters!
This here's a pretty go,
Vor a vine young mayd as never wos
To sar' all mankind zo"
But the t'other young may-den looked shy at me,
And vrom her seat she ris'n,
Zays she, "Let thee and I go our own waay,
And we'll let she go shis'n."

With which we leave Colonel Cooper King's pleasant and instructive book.

surface, as a table, the disputants standing on each side the holder of the wood, and if it fell towards the man on his right, that man won the day, whilst if it fell towards the other party, he was pronounced victor; if the wood even only slightly inclined towards either party that party was declared to be the successful one; if the wood lay equi-distant from both parties, the omen rod was again resorted to. Mr Jones gave a practical illustration of the way in which this ordeal was carried on. The wood was held loosely between his fingers and was dropped vertically on to the table, from which it rebounded, and then fell towards the left. This manner of settling disputes was resorted to in Pentrevoelas, and the neighbouring parishes, up to recent times, and possibly it may even now, in fun rather than in earnest, be used in some parts of Denbighshire. E.O.

WILLIAM MORGAN, BISHOP OF ST. ASAPH (Ap. 6, 1887).—I have looked a second time at some of the entries about Bishop Morgan's family since writing my former note; and am satisfied he was the eldest son of his parents, and in that way heir to his father; but there are some references made to the Morgan property in Sir John's Wynn's History of the Gwydir Family that would lead to the reasonable conclusion that he possessed some hold upon it, which would seriously affect its descent to the children of the Bishop. There was a second son, brother to the Bishop, ELLIS MORGAN, who certainly dwelt at Penmachno after the death of William Morgan, and he had sons and daughters. Are there any entries in the Penmachno register of births, marriages, or deaths, between 1604 and 1786 that can be attested by the present incumbent, that would throw further light upon the Morgan connections with that parish than is conveyed in the names given in my former note? EVAN MORGAN, the Bishop's son, followed his father to Llandaff; he followed him, too, to St. Asaph in 1601, was a dignitary of the Church there in 1604, when the Bishop died; and both he, and other members of his family, obtained other livings in the diocese, from Bishop Richard Parry, after Morgan's death. Mr. Thomas alludes to these preferments in his history. Cannot the incumbents of these particular parishes refer to their registers, and tell us what entries they contain of Morgans born, married, or died, say between 1604 and 1699 in these parishes (or later), and so provide material for further researches? This is no ordinary affair, and I venture therefore to press it home. ASAPH.

QUERIES.

SQUILVER HILL LEGEND.—A correspondent of *Figaro* gives the following legend "connected with the Squilver Hill," which he states is well known in Shropshire:—

A giant on the Squilver stood
And threw the trees on the Roveries Wood;
There came another, brighter than silver,
And threw the stones upon the Squilver.

Where is Squilver Hill?

CYMRŌ.

REPLIES.

THE SQUARE ROD (April 6, 1887).—This measure is common in this district as the replies you have had prove. It is used for garden ground in South Shrop-

APRIL 27, 1887.

NOTES.

FOLK LORE.—COELBREN OR OMEN ROD.—Dr. Owen Pughe in his Dictionary defines the word *Coelbren* as "a piece of wood used in chusing or balloting, whereon was cut the name of the candidate." My friend, the Rev. Owen Jones, Vicar of Pentrevoelas, a parish still somewhat inaccessible (being about seven long steep miles distant from Bettws-y-coed, the nearest railway station), where old customs and old words are still to be found, informed me that disputants in his parish formerly resorted to the coelbren to settle their differences, presumably small unimportant matters. This was done as follows:—A piece of wood, six or so inches long, was dropped by a third party out of his fingers upon a level

shire, in the neighbourhood of Pulverbatch, and I am told also near Shifnal and Wellington. The lineal measure of 8 yards for draining, hedging, potato rows, and the like, is common in most parishes I know in this district. It was formerly in use also for measuring potato ground (in fields) in the parish of West Kirby, Cheshire. Hoose.

Y GROES AR DALGARTH (March 2, 16, 1887).—I have just been to Talgarth farm with Ordnance Map in hand so as to be better enabled to answer the query concerning "*Y Groes ar Dalgarth, &c.*," and have succeeded in forming the following opinions:—

1st.—That *Y Groes ar Dalgarth* is *Y Groesfordd* or *Crossway* that I have marked A on enclosed map.

2nd.—That *Nant-y-travley* is the brook that I have marked red, which is a *Nant-y-trafael*, i.e., the brook that is travel'd over, up to present date, the road for some distance being along the bed of the brook. This brook is called *Nant-y-bacws*, owing to a bakehouse having been built on its banks.

3rd.—*Kilkerenydd* is now part and parcel of Dolgwen Township.

4th.—*The Queen's Highway*, being the Turnpike road leading from the village of Trefeglwys to the town of Llanidloes.

5th.—*The Gwden brook* I have marked in blue. We have therefore the boundaries of the place in question as follows, namely:—

The Queen's Highway on the East.

Gwden brook on the South.

Y Groes ar Dalgarth on the West, and

Nant-y-travley on the North.

All the above-named places are in the Township of Dolgwen. N.B.

[The section of the Ordnance Map which our correspondent has obligingly enclosed shows Talgarth within a short distance of Trefeglwys, to the south west. The Crossway is about a mile from Trefeglwys as the crow flies.—ED.]

CURRENT NOTES.

On Wednesday evening Dr Isambard Owen invited a number of the London friends of the Society for the Utilization of the Welsh Language to dine at the Holborn Restaurant to meet the Venerable Archdeacon Griffiths of Llandaff, Mr D. Isaac Davies, H.M. Inspector of Schools, and Mr Beriah Gwynfe Evans, of Cardiff, who were in town for the purpose of giving evidence on behalf of the Society before the Royal Commission on Education. The company included Mr Stephen Evans, Professor Rhys-Davids, Dr. Frederick Roberts, University College, and other well known London Welshmen. A very pleasant evening was spent, the special toast being that of "Success to the Cause." "The Cause," by the way, meaning thereby the utilization of the language of the Welsh people in their system of education, is gaining ground and gathering friends. I have reason to know that the gentlemen already referred to, who with Mr Marchant Williams and Dr Owen pleaded "the cause" before the Royal Commission, were able to make an excellent case, and that the reasonableness of their claim on behalf of the language made a marked impression on the members of the Commission, amongst whom Wales is represented by Mr Henry Richard.

Mr R. J. Griffith, LL.D., lectured at Carnarvon a few days ago, before the Segontium Society of Literature and

Science, on "The Need of Technical Education in Wales." The Chairman, the Rev. Evan Jones, said that at Llanbryn-mair, Montgomeryshire, he remembered, at one time, the flannel trade in a very prosperous condition, when no less than fourteen waterwheels, affording work to scores, aye hundreds of weavers, were in full swing. Now, however, these mills had entirely disappeared, and he feared that very soon Wales would be without any trade whatever. There was no country richer in raw material—coal, iron, copper, slate, &c.,—than the Principality.—Mr Griffith said that the commerce of Wales was decaying, and he contrasted the results of technical education in Germany and other countries with the want of it in Wales. Old village life was dying out and old village industries were becoming extinct. He suggested that a conference of earnest men interested in our villages and in village life be held to consider whether something could not be done to revive village industries in Wales. He was sure that such a conference would have the support of a large number of members of Parliament and other people who were deeply interested in this question. Let them divide the Principality into districts, each district to bring its produce to one centre, from which it could be sent on to the most profitable markets.

OUR SUMMER VISITORS AND WINTER WEATHER.—A swallow was seen two or three days ago, by Mr Pritchard, gardener at Brynhafod, Oswestry, and the cuckoo has been heard in the neighbourhood. Snow fell at Oswestry yesterday morning.

THE LATE MR. J. W. SMITH, Q.C.—The funeral of the late Mr Josiah W. Smith, Q.C., of Athelston Hall, Hereford, took place on Friday, the body being conveyed to Baldock, for burial in the family burial ground of Baldock Church, where deceased's father was rector. Mr Smith, who was in his 71st year, was for several years a County Court Judge, his circuit being composed of twelve courts, viz., Bishop's Castle, Bridgnorth, Cleobury, Hereford, Leominster, Ludlow, Madeley, Newport, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Wellington, and Wem. In 1879, failing health compelled his retirement. He had for a number of years been suffering from ill health, but the direct cause of death was an affection of the heart.

THE PRINCIPAL OF ABERYSTWYTH COLLEGE.—On Wednesday in the United Presbyterian Synod Hall, Edinburgh, the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred by the University of Edinburgh upon the Rev T. C. Edwards, Principal of Aberystwyth College. Professor Taylor, in presenting the Rev T. C. Edwards to the Vice-Chancellor, Sir William Muir, to confer upon him the degree, said:—I have next, sir, to ask you to confer the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity on the Reverend Thomas Charles Edwards, Master of Arts, Principal, and Professor of Greek, of the University College at Aberystwyth, the premier or pioneer College of the three University Colleges of Wales. (Applause.) Among the honours won by Mr Edwards in the course of a distinguished career as a student, may be mentioned that he was placed second on the list of the successful candidates for the degree of Master of Arts in Philosophy by the University of London, the late Professor Jevons alone taking precedence; and that at Oxford, of which he is also a Master of Arts, he obtained in the final examination a first class in Classics. It may also be mentioned that, undeterred by traditional prejudices, he was in the first batch of Nonconformists who availed themselves of the advantages and opportunities of study tardily conceded to them by the great English Universities. On the establishment of the University College at Aberystwyth in 1872—the first attempt to offer to the

people of Wales higher education on an undenominational basis—he was appointed from a pastoral charge at Liverpool to the honourable double-office of Principal and Professor which he now holds. Arduous as are the duties connected with it, they have not prevented him from making valuable contributions to theological learning, nor from exerting a wide and beneficent influence as a preacher in both the Welsh and English tongues. (Applause.) His Commentary on the First Epistle to the Corinthians—(applause)—which appeared in 1885 and has passed into a second edition, and has been republished in America, is recognised to be an excellent work of great merit. Twenty-two years ago the University of Edinburgh conferred this degree on his venerable and distinguished father, the Reverend Dr Lewis Edwards, President of the Welsh Presbyterian College at Bala—the only Welshman, I believe, who holds the distinction from this University—a distinction which he will now have the happiness of sharing with his son.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The city of St. Asaph is to be lighted with gas in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee—a form of commemoration adopted in some other places at the Jubilee of George III.

OSWESTRY.

A meeting of the sub-committee appointed by the general committee organized for the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee in Oswestry, was held on Saturday for the purpose of receiving the report of the committee appointed to solicit subscriptions. The list of subscriptions was read. The Mayor stated it had been thought advisable, before canvassing the town generally, to ascertain whether it was possible to obtain any large sums towards the scheme for the establishment of a Free Library and the erection of buildings. Over 100 circulars were sent out to persons in the neighbourhood most likely to subscribe. The committee considered the sums promised would be insufficient to justify their proceeding with the extended scheme, and they decided to recommend the general committee to acquire the Castle Bank, which was offered to the Mayor some time ago by the owners, and that a sufficient sum should be expended upon it, to put it in proper order, as a recreation ground. It was thought this could be done at a small expense. The remainder of the subscriptions, it is proposed, shall be devoted to the carrying out of the rejoicings on the day appointed for the purpose. A meeting of the general committee will be held on Saturday for the purpose of organizing the rejoicings. That the Committee were justified in abandoning the larger scheme will be seen from the fact that the only subscriptions promised of £15 and over were £100 each from Lord Darlegh, Mrs Jones, of Bryn Hafod, and Mr E. Woodall; £25 each from Lord Powis, the Mayor (Mr W. H. Lacom), and the Town Clerk (Mr J. Parry-Jones); £20 from Dr. Fuller, and £15 from the Rev J. J. Poynter. In addition to these there were a few smaller sums; and Mr Wright of Halston had undertaken some time ago to give £50 when the Free Libraries Act was adopted.

MAY 4, 1887.

NOTES.

THE PRONUNCIATION OF SHREWSBURY.—

The Vicar of Cockshutt, in his reply of 23 February, on the derivation and meaning of the name of that parish, incidentally mentions John Speed's map, dated 1610, and says—"On the same map Shrewsbury is spelt Shrowsbury, as still pronounced by native Salopians, and in-

variably so by the peasantry." Now, I must except to this last assertion. In all parts of Shropshire with which I am acquainted the peasantry, with their characteristic love of softened sounds, always speak of the county town as "Sosebury." Shrewsbury is the form used by the educated natives of the place; while the ignorant differ considerably, and their variations—Shrewsbury, Srewsbury, Shewsbury, and Sewsbury, perhaps indicate the gradations of their vulgarity. Walter White says in *All Round the Wrekin*, page 137, "Soon our journey ends under the castle of Shrewsbury, or Sewsbury, if we leave out the *hr*, as many of the natives do." Strangers pronounce the name as it is now spelt. In connection with this topic, the reply on "Shrewsbury and Manners," which appeared in *Bye-Gones*, 31 December, 1873, has renewed interest.

R.E.D.
Shrewsbury.

MARRIAGE LICENCES AT THE FACULTY OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, LONDON.—The *Harleian* Society have issued to the members two volumes, part of five volumes, containing thousands of entries similar in character to the annexed, which will indicate the value to parties connected and to compilers of county genealogies (*Harl. Soc.*, vol. xxiv 1886, p. 129)—

1674 May 2, Evan Jones of Kerry co. Montgomery, Gent, Bachelor, 35, and Jane Herbert, Spinster, about 21, daughter of Richard Herbert of the same, Esq., who consents; at Kerry, Moughtrey, or Llanmerewig.

p 159 20 January 1681-2, Edward Lloyd of Beth-Lloyd co. Montgomery Esq. Widower and Elizabeth Calfe of St. Paul's Covent Garden Middlesex Spinster about 30, and at her own disposal, at Paddington, or St. Giles in the Fields, Middlesex.

If these volumes were carefully examined, doubtless other, probably many other, instances would be found relating to Shropshire and the Border Counties.

PEARMAN.

QUERIES.

EVANS-DURELL.—On the 10th Sept., 1771, Lieut.-Colonel Thomas Evans, of the Horse Guards, and an equerry to King George III., assumed by Royal License the name of Durell in conformity with the Will of Mr Solomon Durell, whose daughter and heiress he had married. He is said to have been the son of "W. Thes. Evans" (sic) and Winifred his wife. If any of your correspondents can supply any information about these people, or suggest any clue to them, it will be gratefully received by

C.

REPLIES.

COCKSHUTT (Apl. 13, &c., 1887).—I frankly own that, could Mr. JEBB add proficiency in Welsh to the other advantages he possesses over me, I should not feel it necessary to write a word on the subject; as, with his great ability, he would then be able to explain the matter much better than I can. To proceed, neither do I profess to be *cock-sure* in its popular sense of being ridiculously confident; and if any sentence of mine conveys that idea I beg to say it does so quite unintentionally on my part. Mr. JEBB has, I think, mistaken the purport of my note. If he will refer to it he will see

that I do not *always* derive cock from coch. There certainly are many instances where it does *not* mean *red*. But I still join issue with him, that it never (as far as I can see) means *little*. When forming part of the name of a person, or place, or physical feature, why should it not sometimes mean coch (red)? In pre-surname days in Wales we find it a very common part of names. We read of Iolo Goch, Rhys Goch, Yr Ynad Coch, Madog Goch, Llaw Coch, Rhos Goch, Ty Coch, &c. Again, in English we have to this day plenty of names with *red* in them, e.g., Ruddiman, Redman, Redmon, Redmond, Redhouse, Redwood, all used as names of persons. Supposing a Welshman's name to be Will-coch, what is there improbable in the saying that Englishmen would call him Willcock, and his son Willcocks, written Willcox for the sake of brevity? Are Welsh words so little used in England that even *one* cannot be tolerated a few miles over the borders? Let us examine the matter a little. We will take the county furthest from Wales—Kent. Does it not come from the Welsh word *caint* (white), in appropriate allusion to the chalk cliffs there abounding. We see it plainer still in *Canterbury on the Stour* (*dwr* or water). Take the Welsh words for water, *gwy*, *wy*, *wygy*, and *dwr*. We find them all over England, e.g., Ouse, Wye, Usk, Esk, Eze, Witham, Wear, Wharfe, Medway, Wash, Derby, Stour, Derwent, Windermere, &c., &c. Take places. In the 'Isle of Man' the word *man* is not the generic term man but the Welsh man, a place; the full name being *Mawwy*, i.e., the place in the water. We have the same name in *Menai* slightly altered. Isle of Wight does not mean the 'white Isle,' but the Isle of Gwyth—Wight being a corruption of the Welsh *Wyth*. Manchester again means stone fort—man being a contraction of *maen* (stone). Take names of persons. Wyclif we all know was an Englishman; yet his name is partly Welsh. The family took their patronymic from the Manor House, which stood on the cliff overhanging the Wye. Gaman, Gamon, Gamin, Coffin, Gittins, Gore, Dring, Gough, Walter, are all freely used in England, yet I fancy they are only the Anglicised forms of Gam (crooked), Cyffin (border), Gethin (plain looking), Gawr (giant), Dringwr (climber), Goch (red), and Gwallter (long hair). I will now pass on to Mr JEBB's question—'Is there a trace of red in Slocock or Grocock?' Well, I fancy that there is. *Slö* need not necessarily mean *slow* because it sounds and almost spells like it; else we could similarly say that Maidstone meant Maid's town and not Medway's town. These surnames we are handling had their origin in some distinctive features, characteristics, or occupations of the persons to whom they were applied. Thus we get Armstrong, Thicknesse, Prettyjohn, Lightfoot, Hunter, Baker, Cartwright &c. Have we not often seen a round, ruddy face, beaming as the setting sun—such an one in those days would soon be metaphorically dubbed *Solcock*, which would soon become *Slocock*. And is not 'stout and ruddy' more natural for Grocock than 'a trifle fat?' It is rather curious that we should in this discussion have come across three synonymous names in three different languages, viz., Greathead, Grostete, and Benfras. I take it that *gros* here means *great*, and refers to the *mind* and not to the *size* of the *head*; the head being regarded as the seat of the mind. We say of a far-seeing man that 'He is *long-headed*.'

Similarly we say a gross is twelve dozen, i.e., a *great* hundred. The ock diminutives I shall pass, as I am happy to see that we agree fully as to their meaning. I am no naturalist, so cannot say much about Yeldrock. If it frequents marshy ground would not the *dr* mean *dwr* (water). To pass on, is not *lark* a contraction of *laverock*, which means the 'little singer,' the *laver* having its root in *lären*, to sing. Elliot no doubt means 'little Ellis,' but does Ellicot necessarily mean the same thing? If so, do Westcot, Norcott, mean 'little West,' 'little North'? These are not surnames of my invention, but ones that are in actual use at the present time. Are not Ellicot, Wilkot, Norcot, Westcot, Grocott, &c., more likely to have originally meant Ellis of the Cot, Will of the Cot, the North Cot, and the Big Cot? With the latter cf. Bigot. I do not say that *cock* always means *red*. Say a man lived in an inn with a Cock for the sign—in those days he would soon be called Adam of the Cock, or Adcock, Alcock, &c.; or if he kept fighting cocks he might become Battcock or Badcock (for there are such names). But there is Handcock or Hancock, which we have historical instances of having been given to the Bloodyhanded in battle. Then we have Pollcock, meaning, I should say, Red Poll or Head. We are familiar with Longshanks and Sheepshanks; why could there not be Crane shanks, and if a red-headed man had such shanks why should he not be called *Cochrane*. There we have *cock* preserving its Welsh form, though pronounced *cock*. I do not feel myself sufficiently acquainted with bird lore to pass an opinion upon Bilcock or Judcock. Looking at the names of birds it does seem to me that a deal more is mentioned about the male than about the female part of the community. In one case it is carried so far that even a *female* bird is called a cock—thus *chicken* (m. or f.) really means 'a little cock.' May be the word *cock* is the common patronymic of all birds. However, I willingly yield the palm to Mr JEBB in this department, and shall await with interest his promised explanation of this point.

R. DAVIES.

Rhiwlas.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr Lewis Morris has published a new volume, "Poems of Britain," including three stories of Wild Wales.

The parishioners of Lilleshall have placed a memorial of brass in memory of the late Canon Bunsen in the chancel of Lilleshall Church.

The death is announced of Mr Crawshay Bailey, the son of the famous "Iron King," who was really the founder of the iron and steel industries which have now converted the Merthyr district into a second "Black Country."

As a workman, in the employ of Captain Giles, of Hope Court, Hope Bagot, was engaged excavating and leveling some ground near the Court, he discovered a cannon ball, 12lbs in weight, of the reign of Charles II., about 18 inches beneath the surface.

A widow named Mary Francis, residing at Cornelly, near Port Talbot, has attained the advanced age of 106 years, being born at Llansamlet in 1781. She is still in excellent health, and takes a walk daily when the weather is fine. She never wore spectacles, and is still able to read her Welsh Bible and threads a needle. She also recites Welsh hymns. Her mother before her lived to the remarkable age of 110 years.

The will has been proved of Mr Thomas E. Jones, late of Whitefield House, Chester, stockbroker, formerly of Newtown, Montgomeryshire, who died at Bourne-mouth, on the 11th February, leaving estate declared at £44,078 by the executors. Large sums are left to various institutions, amongst them being £1,000 to the National Lifeboat Institution for a lifeboat for the Welsh Coast, and £500 to the Montgomeryshire Infirmary, New-town.

St Peter's Church, Chester, which dates from the fifteenth century, was re-opened by the Bishop of Chester on Thursday after restoration. The total cost of the work was £2,200. The Bishop of Chester, in preaching the re-opening sermon, said—I suppose that there are few churches, in all England even, that must have had more historical associations than this old church of St. Peter's. It stands upon the very spot upon which was once the Roman Prætorium—the centre of the life and of the administration of the Roman city.

CHANGE-RINGING AT OVERTON.—The Daresbury Society of Change-ringers lately paid a visit to, and rang on the fine toned bells of Overton church a peal of Bob minor, consisting of 720 changes, in 27 minutes. 360 changes were also rung in 13 minutes.

THE WILL OF LADY COTES.—The will (dated 1st July, 1886) has been proved of Lady Louisa H. Cotes (daughter of the third Earl of Liverpool, and widow of Mr John Cotes of Woodcote, Salop, formerly M.P. for North Shropshire), late of Pitchford Hall, Salop, who died on the 5th of February last, and whose executors are Colonel C. J. Cotes and Mr Charles Cotes. The testatrix appoints two sums of £4,525 and £35 000, over which she had power of appointment, in favour of her son, Charles James, with the remainder to her elder son, Captain Chas. C. Cotes, late M.P. for Shrewsbury; and, under a power of appointment in the settlement made on her marriage in 1839, gives £10,000 each to her daughters, Selina Charlotte and Louisa Harriet Cotes. The residue of her property (with the exception of some specific bequests, including the Napoleon service of china given to her father at the Peace of Amiens), the testatrix bequeaths to her said elder son, with remainder to Colonel Charles James Cotes.

DEATH OF THE REV. OSBORNE WILLIAMS.—The Rev. Osborne Williams died a few days ago. Mr. Williams, who was the eldest son of the late Mr Lewis Williams of Fronwnion, near Dolgelley, and the proprietor of the Old Merionethshire Bank, was sixty-one years of age. He was educated at Dolgelley and Ruthin Grammar School, and after entering Jesus College, Oxford, he graduated there about thirty-five years ago. He was ordained by the late Dr. Bethel, then Bishop of Bangor, and obtained the curacy of Llanfachreth near Dolgelley, where he remained for some years. He was afterwards appointed Vicar of Pwllheli, where he officiated for nearly twenty years. He was a great friend of the late Ab Ithel, and of the young bard, Glasynys, who was a schoolmaster under him for some time, and whom he helped to push forward in the Church. Mr Williams was a High Churchman, but free from bigotry. His health began to fail six or seven years ago, and he retired from active duties, and came to reside at his old home; but he was always very willing to assist the neighbouring clergymen whenever circumstances required. His last public appearance was at the funeral of his uncle, the Rev. J. Jones, rector of Llanaber.

THE LATE DR EVANS, OF FLINT.—Dr Tegid Aneurin Evans, medical officer of the borough of Flint, whose

death from typhus fever, contracted in the discharge of his professional duties, was announced last week, was, says the *Liverpool Courier*, medical officer and public vaccinator for the parishes of Flint, Northop, and Halkyn, in the Holywell Union, and also medical officer to the Odd-fellows, Foresters, Druids, Shepherds, Ancient Britons, and other Friendly Societies in Flint, Connah's Quay, and Bagillt, the Bettisfield Colliery, Bagillt, the Chemical Works at Flint and Pentre, and the Flint Coal and Cannel Company's Works. He was also medical officer under the Factories Acts for the Flint district. In addition to a number of public appointments, he had one of the most extensive private practices in North Wales, had been resident in Flint about two and a half years, but in that short time he had made a widely-known reputation as a medical man, and enjoyed in an extraordinary degree the confidence of those with whom he was brought in contact. With the poor he was an especial favourite, and his loss is keenly felt and sincerely deplored by all classes of the community. He was thirty-one years of age, and was the youngest son of the Rev Professor D. Silvan Evans, B.D., the eminent Welsh lexicographer, rector of Llanwrin.

MAY 11, 1887.

NOTES.

RICHARD, BISHOP OF ST. DAVIDS, INDULGENCE BY.—In the 4th Report of His. MSS. Com. Appendix p. 183, is the following curious paragraph:—"Indulgence by Richard, Bishop of St. David's, of 40 days to those praying and worshipping in the Church of Westminster and before the Shrine of St. Edward 4, May, 1269." P.

THE WAXCHANDLERS' COMPANY, A LONDON GUILD.—The following extracts from the register of this Company may be interesting to the descendants of any of the persons named, and afford a hint where similar information in connection with the other London Guilds, might be found relating to persons from Shropshire or the Border Counties, who came to London to start in life a couple of centuries or so ago.

1691, Thomas Fernald son of Thomas Fernald of Carey (Kerry?) Montgomeryshire, yeoman, apprenticed to William Richards for seven years from 21 Nov., 1691.

1706, Richard Oliver, son of Richard Oliver of Kerry, Montgomeryshire, shoemaker, apprenticed to Matthew Richards for seven years from 29 October, 1706.

1714-15, Richard Suker, son of Richard Suker, late of Shustock (Churchstoke?), Montgomeryshire, Taylor, apprenticed to John Jones, citizen and Wax Chandler, for seven years from 2 February, 1714-15.

Z.

WILLIAM, LORD POWIS (PETITION OF).—1640-1. Feb'y 23. Petition of William Lord Powis, Committee of his grand child, Herbert Vaughan, Esq., His Majesty's ward, for and on behalf of himself and his ward. Sir Robert Vaughan of Llwydiarth in the County of Montgomery, and Llangedwyn in the County of Denbigh, and other lands, married Dame Katherine, daughter of petitioner, and died, leaving her with one daughter; thereupon Edward Vaughan, brother of the said Robert, violently seized on his possessions and forged a deed and a will in his own favour. Shortly after the death of Sir Robert, his widow gave birth to a son, the

said Herbert Vaughan, on whose behalf proceedings have been taken in the Star Chamber and the Court of Wards, but, by forgery and subornation, Edward Vaughan tries to prove that the said Herbert Vaughan is a supposititious child, and to support a settlement of the lands in his own favour. Prays that the matter may be heard and determined by their lordships (*See L.J., IV., 170*).
Z.

OSWESTRY IN THE GOOD OLD TIMES.—I have thought a few words about Oswestry in the good old times three quarters of a century ago might be of some interest to your readers now we are looking back to the Accession of Her Majesty. In the days when George the III. was king, Oswestry was very different from our thriving town of to-day. To begin at "Head Quarters" the Town Hall (Powis Hall) consisted of the front room only of the present building, and there was a room above where the "Court" was held. There was no gaol, but our head Constable (Mr. Bunner) used to lock up his prisoners in a sort of coal-hole under the stairs in the Town Hall, although they used to say he would "give them lodgings" in his own house if they were able to pay for them. Where our present Court-house stands stood a Wesleyan Chapel. The Castle Bank reached to the stables behind the George, and the Castle Fields were fields in reality. In the Cross stood an old-fashioned wooden pump. There was no market hall, but the market was held in the Cross and the streets leading to it. The sellers stood in the streets. Butter was sold near Mr. Bayley's shop; fowls in the centre of the street and around the pump; fruit, as far up as the King's Head. For cattle and sheep pens were fixed up in the streets near the Coach and Dogs. In Beatrice-street, where the Wesleyan Chapel now stands, was a large pond called Bickerton's Pool. In Salop-road was no Trinity Church, and none of the houses now near it were built. In Church-street was a long low wall, with steps up to the Churchyard, and this wall was a favourite lounge for the old Oswestrians. It reached far out into the street, making it much narrower than it now is. Near the Coach and Dogs was a horse block used for mounting the pillion. The coach used to run to the Green, as the Wynnstay Arms was then called. (There were no railways of course.) The old Church-street Gate, near the White Horse, had been taken down some few years before. It was called the New Gate, and had a room over it, but was too low, and hindered the traffic. In Lower Brook-street stood the old play house, where the Victoria Rooms now stand; it was an old building of beams and bricks. A company under Mr. Stanton performed here in winter, but migrated for the summer to Newcastle in Staffordshire. The crossing by the Coach and Dogs was called the Bridge, and from there along Upper Church-street was little but fields. Where Mr. Vaughan's stoneyard now stands were the old Tithe Barns (for receiving the tithes, which were then paid in kind), and the turnpike gate. A little lower stood the old thatched houses some may remember, and an old stable, in which a pack of hounds belonging to the Corporation, or called the Corporation hounds, were kept. The huntsman was Mr Jones, King's Head. For schools there were the Grammar School, Mr. Cross's School in Leg-street, a small school kept by the Clerk of the Church, and dame schools. The

first Sunday School was held at the Old Chapel in Arthur-street long before this. I should also mention that Oswald's Well at this time was held to possess valuable healing properties, and many people carried away bottles of its water to cure their ailments. We had Volunteers, who drilled on Sunday, and an Artillery Company. Such, as far as I can remember, was our town in the young days of
Penylan Lane, Oswestry.
WILLIAM THOMAS.

QUERIES.

LUNGEOUS—LUNGEROUS.—Miss Jackson, in her interesting "Shropshire Word Book," gives the meaning of "lungeous" as "malicious, spiteful, cruel." The word was in familiar use when I was a boy at Shrewsbury, and is still heard at Oswestry, sometimes as "lungerous," but I never knew it used in the sense which Miss Bird attaches to it. "Lungeous" meant to be awkward or careless in a rude or violent fashion. Thus, if another boy carelessly pushed against me in the street, I should have said—"What a lungeous fellow he is," without meaning that he meant to push me. Can anyone else throw light on the meaning of this not uncommon Shropshire word?
W.O.

COATS OF ARMS.—Can any of your readers tell me to whom the following arms belong:—

Arg. a chevron between 3 ermine spots sa.

Arms of Knipersley of Knipersley, co. Staffs.; Erthig of Erthig; Pembridge and Padwardine.—Can any of your readers give the connection with the Pulestons? The arms appear as a quartering in all the oldest coats.

Why do the Lacons, co. Salop, quarter Puleston?

Sulhamstead Park, Reading.
E. E. THOYTS.

REPLIES.

BLAEN-Y-GLYN (April 20, 1887).—I am indebted to your correspondents "R.W." and the Rev. J. MOSTYN for their interesting replies to my query. The quotation given is the identical one from Dr. John Evans's Statistics (by the by, should not "Cobin" have been "Cwm"?). The identity of this Blaen-y-Glyn is clearly established, but the Association one is still unidentified. But supposing them to be one and the same, which I still think possible, it does not of necessity follow that the place belonged to the Methodists. During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries the lines of distinction between the several denominations were not so marked as during the present century. There were several Union Churches in Montgomeryshire, and Edward Jones of Pontypool, writing in 1742, refers to a Church in Radnorshire "gathered partly by the Methodists and partly by the Dissenters" (or Congregationalists). It was at the invitation of the Rev. Lewis Rees of Llanbrynmair that Howell Harris first visited North Wales, and an ancestor of mine belonged to a Church (where a Methodist Association was once held) which consisted of members of each of the four denominations. I presume Mr Price to be right in supposing that preaching at or near Blaen-y-Glyn dates from the days of Hugh Evans, the "Blind Priest of Radnorshire," for in 1658 two friends of his, named respectively Bound and Price, and one of whom resided at Garthfawr, published a pamphlet in his defence against the aspersions of a scurrilous Quaker.

T.H.J.

GEORGE III.'s JUBILEE (March 30, 1887).—To complete the local report we continue (from the *Vale of Clwyd Free Press*) the accounts of Denbighshire celebrations. Those for Shropshire were supplied to *Bye-Gones* from the original publication.

DENBIGHSHIRE.

WREXHAM.—The day was ushered in by early peals of ringing, which continued at intervals until a late hour. The Wrexham Yeomanry Cavalry marched in procession to Church, where a most excellent discourse was delivered by the Rev. Mr Jones. They afterwards fired three volleys, and partook of a sumptuous dinner at the Lion Inn (Major Lloyd, of Pen-y-lan, in the chair). His Majesty's health was drunk with that enthusiasm which may be more readily conceived than expressed. Several appropriate toasts were drunk, and the evening was spent with conviviality and good order. Much to the credit of this long and well-established corps, they liberally contributed £50 to the fund already subscribed by the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, to relieve the wants of the necessitous poor, during the ensuing winter; they likewise purchased a quantity of fireworks, which were displayed on the evening of the day, and had a pleasing and splendid effect. The paupers in the parish Workhouse were bountifully regaled with roast beef, &c., and a quantity of their native ale; and those receiving parochial relief received double pay for the week. Richard Lloyd, Esq., Banker, in a very handsome manner came forward upon the present occasion, by subscribing liberally to the fund, and undertaking to serve the poor with five hundred measures of corn, at a shilling per measure below the market price; and likewise to furnish the committee with any loan of money they may want without interest. Most of the gentlemen in this county killed an ox, and gave dinners to their tenants, the poor, &c.

DENBIGH.—The Corporation and inhabitants of Denbigh voted an Address to his Majesty. The Aldermen, Bailiffs, and Capital Burgesses met at eleven o'clock in the morning, at their Council Chamber, and went in procession, with the Rector and his Curate, attended by the Common Burgesses, the Inferior Officers of the Corporation, the Local Militia, and the Charity and other schools, to Church, when a very impressive sermon was preached by Dr Myddleton to a most numerous congregation. After divine service they returned to the Town Hall; and the Corporation, in their Council Chamber, voted their thanks to Dr. Myddleton for his most excellent discourse. In the course of the day 50 cannons were fired from the Castle, and several volleys with a feu de joie by the Local Militia. A most liberal Subscription, at the head of which was R. M. Biddulph, Esq., for thirty guineas; the Hon. Mr. West twenty guineas; and Miss Myddleton twenty guineas; was made for the benefit of the poor. Fifty gentlemen dined together at the Crown Inn, and 151 of the other inhabitants, the Local Militia, and the regular soldiers on the recruiting service, with the recruits, were treated by the Corporation with a dinner at the Bull. The day was closed with a public ball, and, in short, spent by all the inhabitants in a manner which fully testified their sincere attachment to our beloved sovereign.

CURRENT NOTES.

A memorial window of Bishop Heber, whose father was rector of the parish, was inaugurated in Malpas Church on Sunday, May 1, the sermon being preached by the Bishop of Chester. Bishop Heber was born at Malpas, April 21, 1783, and died at Trichinopoly in 1826.

Truth says:—The will of Mr Crawshay Bailey has excited much surprise in South Wales. He leaves a fortune estimated at over £60,000 a year, and the whole of it is to accumulate for twenty-one years, except that each of his daughters (Mrs Gordon Canning and Miss Bailey) is left £5,000 a year.

Probate has been granted of the will (dated 11th February, 1886) of Mr John Lloyd Wynne, D.L., High Sheriff for the county of Denbigh, 1864-5, late of Coed Coch, near Abergele, and Eaton-place, London, whose personality has been declared of the value of upwards of £10,000, by Mrs Mary Ann F. L. Wynne, the relict and executrix.

At the monthly meeting of the Carnarvon Town Council, last week, the Mayor (Mr J. Jones), read a letter from Mr Howel Thomas, secretary of the London Committee of Sir Hugh Owen's Memorial Fund, stating that he had submitted to that committee the Mayor's letter, accepting on behalf of the Council the condition attached to the selection of Carnarvon as the place in which the statue in memory of Sir Hugh Owen shall be set up, and they had resolved that it shall be placed there upon the pedestal and site provided by the town. The statue will be in bronze, and it is expected that it will be ready about the end of the year. The matter was referred to the local committee.

Probate has been granted of the will of his Honour the late Joseph St. John Yates, Justice of the Peace for the counties of Chester, Derby, and Lancaster, and for Stockport, judge of the Cheshire County Court, and deputy-steward of the Manor and Forest of Macclesfield, who died on the 2nd of March last, leaving personal estate of the value of £63,422. He bequeaths to Mr J. M. Yates, among other articles of value, his silver plate and plated articles, including the silver salvers presented to his grandfather, Mr Thos. Ainsworth, the silver cup presented to his grandfather, Mr Justice Yates, and the silver plateau with accessories and a framed address presented to him by the registrars of and solicitors practising in the County Courts of Circuit No. 9, requesting that these presentations shall devolve on his son's family as heirlooms.

The *Chester Chronicle* says:—Probably the proudest man in all Cheshire is Mr Howarth, butcher, of Knutsford, whose pretty little daughter, attired as Queen of the May, presented the Princess of Wales with a lovely bouquet of orchids on Tuesday, May 3. The future Queen of England entered into conversation with the mimic Queen of the May in the kindest possible manner, and, with the Prince of Wales, was evidently much interested in the revival of the old English May Day pastimes. The scene, which was witnessed by thousands, evoked immense enthusiasm. With the approval of royalty these sports, innocent, picturesque, and in every way worthy of encouragement as they are, will probably receive a fresh impetus. The Knutsford pastimes are, by the permission of the Prince of Wales, to be hereafter honoured with the prefix "Royal." Over May Day games it is said are second to none, and we trust that both will be well supported.

The sale of the Hartley Library, which was effected by Messrs Puttick and Simpson, under an order in Chancery by Mr Justice North, came to an end on Wednesday, April 27. It was conducted by Mr William Simpson, and there was throughout a fair sprinkling of book buyers, principally representatives of the great retail houses, such as Quaritch's, Sotheman's, Toovey's, Robson's, and others more or less known in the book world. An excellent catalogue had been prepared by Mr J. Corbet-Anderson, but the great majority of the lots offered for

sale were not such as to greatly excite public interest. By far the most important part of the library had been disposed of at previous sales. The collection now put up for auction, however, comprised some valuable manuscripts, amongst them the Shropshire MS. Collections by Mr Hardwick, of Bridgnorth, an extensive Bibliographical Collection, including many rare Catalogues of Public and Private Libraries; a very large copy of the First Folio Shakspeare; and a Genealogical Collection of much value. The numerous catalogues and bibliographies, as a rule, fetched but very low prices, generally no more than a shilling or two. Curiously enough there was a small run on Gwilym Lleyan's "Cambrian Bibliography" before it was knocked down at ten shillings to a dealer (Jarvis). The "Bibliotheca Herefordiensis," compiled by John Allen, junr., fetched 52s. The Chatsworth Library Catalogue, of which only 250 copies were privately printed for the Duke of Devonshire, was sold for 8 guineas. Of course there was an exciting contest over the first folio Shakspeare 1623, although the title with the Droeshout portrait was wanting, and the leaf opposite, whilst containing the Jonsonian 10 lines, was mutilated. The treasure eventually fell to Mr Toovey's bid for £255. A complete set of the Gentleman's Magazine from 1731 to 1868 went for £15 10s. The Ancient MS. Pedigree of the Mytton Family of Salop, with emblazoned shields, &c., was sold for £5 10s. Several lots of topographical tracts relating to Shropshire only commanded a few shillings. In one parcel sold for 11s there went amongst other things a scarce copy of *Bye-Gones* for 1873, and a tract on Valle Crucis Abbey by Mr Morris C. Jones. Sir F. Madden's Hampshire MS. and Printed Collections fetched £20, and Mr Hardwick's Shropshire MSS., a large and truly valuable collection, embracing the Antiquities, Topography, Manorial History, Genealogy and Heraldry of the County, went for £21. The whole of the Genealogical Collections, illustrating the History of Roman Catholic Families of England, were bought by Mr Quaritch for £255.

Wales and the Border Counties do not figure very prominently at the Royal Academy this year, but there are a few canvases that deserve notice in this connection. In the first gallery we have a capital portrait of Mr Marchant Williams, an active London Welshman, painted by a countryman, Mr B. S. Marks. The picture might have been better placed, but even as it is it shows excellent work and a good likeness. Mr W. W. Oules, R.A., sends a fine portrait of the late Mr Robert Oliver Jones, of Fommon Castle, South Wales; and Mr Hubert Herkomer, who, it will be remembered, married a Welsh lady from Ruthin, contributes, amongst other portraits, a Henry M. Stanley, and a very effective one of the Lord Bishop of Chester. Mr Herbert W. Foster of Stoke-on-Trent is responsible for a painting entitled "Hale and Hearty Still," showing an old Welsh miner in his working duds. In the fifth gallery is exhibited Mr Oules's presentation portrait of Thomas Southam, Ex-Mayor of Shrewsbury. In the next gallery, Mr Leader shows us "The smooth Severn Stream;" and in No. 7 we have Mr Phil Morris's portrait of his mother-in-law, Mrs J. R. Davies of Barmouth. Mr Richard Short has a picture of St. David's Head and of Porthcawl Beach. Miss Sarah Birch sends a portrait of Evelyn, daughter of Sir Robert Cunliffe. "A grey day," as seen near Conway, has inspired Mr Arnold Priestman. Mr Frank Holl's fine portrait of Lord Stalbridge, presented to him by Liberal members on his retirement from the post of whip, finds a place on the line. The neighbourhood of Barmouth has furnished subjects for a couple of "bits" in the Water Colour Room, as also has Capel Curig and Carnedd Llewelyn. Mr T. Sidney Cooper, R.A., in "A Relic of

the Lords Marcher of Shropshire," shows the remains of an ancient building surrounded by the inevitable cattle. In the Sculpture Room we note Mr Milo Griffith's panel of her Majesty the Queen, supported by a figure of Herald of Peace, and a figure of Plenty, with four compartments representing the four quarters of the globe, and Mr William Davies's bust of Mrs Frances M. Buss. —At the Grosvenor Gallery there is "A Welsh Pastoral" by Mr R. G. Somerset; a portrait of a Welsh titular Earl, he of Pembroke and Montgomery, by Mr W. B. Richmond, a fine piece of work; a lifelike presentment of Lord Harlech, by Mr Frank Holl, R.A.; a portrait of Lady Wenlock by Mr W. G. Wills, and some highly characteristic paintings by the Welsh artist, Mr E. Burne Jones, A.R.A.

THE NIGHTINGALE.—The Rev. B. E. Holmes writes from Frankton to say that on May 2 he heard the nightingale in a copse about half a mile from Frankton station. It is said to be twenty years since the nightingale was last heard in the neighbourhood of Frankton.

THE VACANT CANONRY AT ST. ASAPH.—The Rev. Thomas B. Llewellyn Browne, M.A., late scholar of Jesus College, Oxford, and rector of Bodvari, near Rhyl, has been appointed by the Bishop of the Diocese to the Cursal Canonry in St. Asaph Cathedral, vacant by the decease of the Rev. Frederick Cashel, M.A., Vicar of Holy Trinity, Oswestry.

CAPTURE OF A BADGER AT DINAS MAWDDWY.—On Thursday, April 28, Sir Edmund Buckley's terriers captured a fine female badger, weighing 15½ lbs. The previous day, Mr Thomas Brees, Blaenycwm, observed what he thought was a fox chasing some sheep on his land, but when he appeared on the scene the animal disappeared among a heap of stones. Mr Brees made him secure, and sent for Mr J. Pattinson, Sir Edmund's keeper, who went there with his dogs on the day following, accompanied by about three dozen men and their dogs. Several dogs having gone into the ground and come out again bleeding! profusely from bites, it was suggested that the place should be blown up with dynamite, which was done, but to no purpose. Eventually, however, in the evening Dr. Williams's terrier and a sheep dog got out a badger who had fearfully torn the dogs. The men beat him to death with their clubs. It is 80 years since an animal of the kind was before seen in this neighbourhood.

CROWN RENTS IN WALES.—In the House of Commons on Friday, Mr Kenyon asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury whether the Commissioners of Woods and Forests are now exacting a crown rent from Mr Wynne, of Peniarth, county Merioneth, without being able to prove the lands out of which the said rent issues, though it had been clearly pointed out to them that the said rent should issue out of an adjoining farm, the property of another owner; and whether he was aware that cases of this kind were constantly occurring in different parts of Wales, and that great and general dissatisfaction was expressed at the administration of this office in the Principality.—Mr Jackson.—The rent supposed to be referred to is an ancient manorial rent of 1s 6d. per annum on a property recently acquired by Mr Wynne. The rent has heretofore been paid by the owner of the same premises, certainly for 50 years, and the Commissioners of Woods and Forests are advised that Mr Wynne is now liable for it; but further inquiries are being made. Cases of disputed liability for ancient fee farm and other Crown rents in Wales not unfrequently occur, and occasion much trouble and expense to the Commissioners of Woods and

Forests. Two or three landowners whose predecessors have paid Crown rents for generations have within recent years repudiated their liability, and put the Commissioners to expense, not only in making local enquiries, but also in record searching, in order to prove their title. I am not aware of any dissatisfaction with the administration of the office.

ANCIENT WELSH MANUSCRIPTS.—In the House of Commons on Monday, May 2, Mr Bowen Rowlands said, I beg to ask the Financial Secretary to the Treasury whether sums of money have been granted from time to time out of the estimates towards reproducing in facsimile and publishing some of the most important of the ancient manuscripts of England, Ireland, and Scotland, and whether the Government will consent to give similar encouragement towards reproducing and publishing ancient Welsh manuscripts.—Mr W. L. Jackson—It is a fact that between the years 1864 and 1884 sums of money have been provided from time to time in the estimates towards reproducing in facsimile and publishing some of the most important of the ancient manuscripts of England, Scotland, and Ireland. It was, however, found in 1884 that nearly £10,000 had been expended in the previous ten years on this work, whilst the receipts from the sales were only £1,850. In view of this evidence of the lack of public interest in these works, and for other reasons also, the publication was discontinued, and I do not think that I can hold out any hope that the recommencement of the work is likely to be made in favour of ancient Welsh manuscripts.—In the House of Commons on Thursday, Mr Thomas Ellis said, I beg to ask the Financial Secretary to the Treasury whether he will submit to the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts the desirableness of appointing a competent Welsh scholar to inspect and calendar the collections of manuscripts in Wales.—Mr Jackson—I am informed by the Historical Manuscripts Commission that they have no applications at present before them for an inspection of Welsh manuscripts by possessors of such documents. They are quite prepared at any time, so far as the funds at their disposal for the work in hand will allow, to undertake the inspection of any Welsh manuscripts of historical value which may be brought under their notice; but no special appointment of an inspector of such manuscripts could be made.—Mr Thomas Ellis asked if the Commissioners would appoint a scholar who understood the Welsh language.—Mr Jackson—I thought that I had made it clear that if an appointment was made the Commissioners would be quite prepared to authorise an inspection, but that it was not necessary to make a special appointment.

SMALL ALLOTMENTS IN SHROPSHIRE.

From an official return of the number of allotments detached from and attached to cottages in each Union in England and Wales, it appears that there are in Atcham Union, detached from cottages, 113 allotments under one-eighth of an acre, 22 of one-eighth and under one quarter, 143 one quarter and under an acre, 36 arable of one to four acres, both inclusive, 77 of pasture, and two partly arable and partly pasture; 323 not exceeding half a mile from the cottages, 61 not a mile, and four exceeding a mile. Attached to cottages, 2,059 garden allotments of and exceeding one-eighth of an acre, held by labourers and working men, average rent, including cottage, £4 9s.—In Bridgnorth Union, detached from cottages, 157 allotments under one-eighth of an acre, 22 of one-eighth and under a quarter, 28 of a quarter and under one acre, of one to four acres 4 arable, 132 pasture, and 4 partly both; 325 allotments not exceeding half a mile from cottages, 15 not ex-

ceeding a mile, and 7 exceeding a mile; 368 allotments of and exceeding one-eighth of an acre attached to cottages, average rent, including cottage, £4 17s.—In Church Stretton Union, 10 allotments not more than half-a-mile from the cottages, 248 exceeding an eighth of an acre attached to cottages, average rent of which, including cottage, £3 9s.—In Cleobury Mortimer Union, detached from cottages, 15 allotments under one-eighth of an acre, 13 under a quarter of an acre, 4 arable of from one acre to four acres, 32 allotments not exceeding half a mile from the cottages; attached to cottages 227 garden allotments exceeding one-eighth of an acre, average rent, including cottage, £4.—In Clun Union, detached from cottages, 10 allotments under one-eighth of an acre, one of that area and under a quarter, and 35 of a quarter of an acre and under one acre, 29 arable, 72 pasture, and nine partly both, of one to four acres; 119 allotments not exceeding half a mile from the cottages, and 37 not one mile; 781 garden allotments exceeding one-eighth of an acre attached to cottages, average rent, including cottage, £4 2s.—In Drayton Union, detached from cottages, four allotments under one-eighth of an acre, 29 under a quarter of an acre, and 50 under one acre; of one to four acres, both inclusive, 13 arable, 14 pasture, and 80 partly both; 168 allotments not exceeding half a mile from the cottages, 19 not above one mile, and three exceed a mile. Attached to cottages 784 garden allotments exceeding one-eighth of an acre, average rent, including cottage £4 9s.—In Ellesmere Union, detached from cottages, four allotments under one-eighth of an acre, 171 under a quarter, and 88 under an acre; of one acre to four acres, 49 pasture and 68 partly arable and partly pasture; 376 allotments exceeding half a mile from the cottages, three one mile, and one exceeds a mile; attached to cottages 678 garden allotments exceeding one-eighth of an acre, average rent, including cottage, £4 9s.—In Ludlow Union, detached from cottages, 14 allotments under one-eighth of an acre, 43 under a quarter, and 51 under an acre; of one acre to four acres, three arable, 25 pasture, and two partly both; 92 allotments not exceeding half a mile from the cottages, 32 not exceeding one mile, 14 exceeding one mile; attached to cottages 980 garden allotments exceeding one-eighth of an acre, average rent, including cottage, £4 3s.—In Madeley Union, detached from cottages, 225 allotments under one-eighth of an acre, 71 under a quarter, 115 under an acre; of one acre to four acres, 15 arable, 73 pasture, 14 partly both; 440 allotments not exceeding half a mile from the cottages, 64 do not exceed a mile, nine exceed a mile; attached to cottages 1,117 garden allotments exceeding one-eighth of an acre, average rent, including cottage, £4 15s.—In Newport Union, detached from cottages, 21 allotments under one-eighth of an acre, 34 under a quarter, 81 under one acre; of one acre to four acres, two arable, two pasture, eight partly of both; 141 allotments not exceeding half a mile from the cottages, seven not exceeding a mile; attached to cottages 956 garden allotments, average rent, including cottage, £4 7s.—In Oswestry Incorporation, detached from cottages, seven allotments under one-eighth of an acre, one of that area, and 12 under one acre, 56 of pasture of from one to four acres, seven partly arable and partly pasture; 82 not exceeding half a mile from the cottages, one does not exceed a mile; attached to cottages 1,186 garden allotments exceeding one-eighth of an acre, average rent, including cottage, £4 17s.—In Shifnal Union, detached from cottages, 27 allotments under a quarter of an acre, and 76 under one acre. Of one acre to four acres seven arable and 23 pasture, two partly both; 134 allotments not exceeding half a mile from the cottages, and one exceeds a mile; attached to cottages are 892 garden allot-

ments, average rent, including cottage, £4 8s.—In Wellington Union, detached from cottages, three allotments under one-eighth of an acre; three under one quarter, and 18 under one acre; two of pasture, five partly arable and partly pasture, of one acre to four acres; attached to cottages, 656 garden allotments; average rent, including cottage, £4 14s.—In Wem Union, detached from cottages, one allotment under one-eighth of an acre, 15 under a quarter, 40 under one acre; of one to four acres, four arable and eight pasture; attached to cottages, 710 garden allotments; average rent, including cottage, £4 12s.—In Whitchurch Union, detached from cottages, 54 allotments under one-eighth of an acre, 22 under one-fourth, and 45 under one acre. Of one to four acres, 24 arable, 111 pasture, 21 partly both; 25 of the allotments under one mile from the cottages, and two exceed a mile. Attached to cottages 378 garden allotments exceeding one-eighth of an acre, average rent, including cottage, £4 13s.

MR LEWIS MORRIS'S "SONGS OF BRITAIN."

The following is the introduction to "The Physicians of Myddfai," in Mr Lewis Morris's new volume of poems:—

Fair, far away in wild Wales, by the shore of the boundless Atlantic,
Where the cloud-capt peaks of the North are dwarfed to the hills of the South,
And through the long vale to the sea, the full-fed devious Towey
Turns and returns on itself, like the coils of a silvery snake,
A grey town sits up aloft on the bank of the clear flowing river,
As it has sat since the days when the Roman was first in the land.
A town, with a high ruined castle and walls mantled over with ivy,
With church towers square and strong, and narrow irregular streets,
And, frequent in street and lane, many-windowed high-shouldered chapels,
Whence all the still Sabbath ascend loud preaching and passionate prayer,
Such violent wrestling with sin, that the dogs on the pavement deserted
Wake with a growl from their dreams at the sound of the querulous voice,
And the gay youths, released from the counter and bound for the seaside or hillside,
Start as they wake on their way echoes of undevout feet,
And here and there a rude square, with statues of popular heroes,
A long quay with scarcely a ship, and a hoary bridge spanning the stream,
The stream which struggles in June by the shallows where children are swimming,
The furious flood which at Yule roars seaward, resistless along
Though the white steam ribbons float by it, forlorn it seems, almost forsaken.
All the day long in the week the dumb streets are hushed in repose,
But on market or fair days there comes a throng of Welsh-speaking peasants
From many a lonely farm in the folds of the rain-beaten hills,
And the long streets are filled with the high-pitched speech of the chaffering Cymry,
With a steeple-crowned hat, here and there, and the red cloaks which daunted the French.

Scarce in Keltic Brittany's self, or in homely Teutonic Silesia,
So foreign a crowd may you see as in this far corner of Wales.

A Correspondent writes:—

Mr Lewis Morris has given to the world through Messrs Kegan Paul, Trench, & Co., a new volume of poems under the title of "Songs of Britain." For the first time if I mistake not he has chosen subjects for his muse from the traditionary lore of ancient Wales. The Merionethshire legend of "Llyn y Morwynion," derived partly from the *Mabinogion*, partly from a quasi-historical tradition, is treated with poetic grace and fervour, but to my mind there is nothing better in the poem than the introductory lines, descriptive of "fair Festiniog 'mid the Northern Hills," where

The stern round
Of Labour rules—a silent land, sometimes
Loud with the blast that buffets all the hills
Whereon the workers toil, in quarries hewn
Upon the terraced rocksides.

This is followed by a telling picture of the Kymric Eisteddfod, where the thousand toilers of Wales find their rest and recreation, as thus:—

For solace of their toil
Songs come to strengthen them, and song-like verse
In the old Cymric measures, and the dream
Of fame when all the listening thousands round
Are ranged in Session, and the rapt array
Expectant of the singer's soaring voice,
Or full quire rising thund'rous to the skies,
The sheathed swords, and the sacred Chair of Oak,
Where sits the Bard. But most of all they prize
Old memories of the Past,

and it is not to be wondered at, that a poet who has found his highest inspiration in the legends of Hellas, should find it renewed in the fair myths of the Cymry. From the maids of Arvon, who for "love's sweet sake" followed Blodeuwedd into the unfathomed depths of the lake, henceforward known as that of "Y Morwynion," Mr Morris leads us to another lake legend, that attached to Llyn-y-Van. This, it will be remembered, is the subject of the Love-Poem for competition at the London Eisteddfod, and it will be interesting to compare the treatment accorded to it in a Welsh dress side by side with Mr Morris's version. The third legend utilised by Mr Morris, viz., that of the fairy "Curse of Pantannas," has been gleaned by Professor Rhys from amongst the hillsides of Glamorgan,

Where still
The Cymric lore, the Cymric speech survive,
The half-forgotten fables of old time,
Of gnome and fairy, flourish undisturbed
Amid the noontide glare of common day.

One of the most lovely poems in the book is reminiscent of the author's visit to Pembrokeshire in 1886 as a parliamentary candidate, in which the bustle and excitement of the crowded day is charmingly contrasted with the mid-night calm of a night in June. The volume contains many other exquisite pieces, but none that will be dearer to a Welshman than those I have referred to. The last poem in the book is "A Song of Empire," written by Mr Morris in anticipation of Her Majesty's Jubilee, which appeared not long ago in one of the monthly magazines.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The contributions of the women of Montgomery towards her Majesty's Jubilee Fund amount to £13 11s, which has been forwarded by Mrs Fairles-Humphreys to head-quarters.

The Mayor of Bangor (Alderman Lewis) presented that city, last week, with a clock and tower in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee. The tower is 47 feet in height, and the clock has four illuminated dials 3 feet 6 inches in diameter.

A striking feature is to be introduced into the celebration of her Majesty's Jubilee in the west-midland and south-western districts, in the lighting of beacon fires on the hills of the counties of Gloucester, Worcester, Warwick, Salop, Hereford, and Wales. The suggestion has been made by the Worcestershire Jubilee Committee, and has been cordially approved by many of the surrounding authorities.

At the quarterly meeting, on Thursday, of the Town Council of the borough of Flint, the Mayor's signature and the borough seal were attached to an address to the Queen on the celebration of the Jubilee of her reign, in which the Corporation "thankfully acknowledge the mercy of Almighty God in continuing her Majesty's life, and His goodness in inspiring her with the desire as well as the power to accomplish the innumerable acts of gracious consideration and goodwill which have distinguished her reign." The address is illuminated in Old English and Gothic. At the top there is a copy of Miss Rayner's drawing of the ruins of Flint Castle, and at the bottom a sketch of the Town Hall.

The Late Mr John Ceiriog Hughes.

We regret to have to record the death of Mr John Ceiriog Hughes of Caersws, manager of the Van Railway, better known to most of his fellow-countrymen by his bardic name "Ceiriog." General sorrow will be caused throughout the Principality by the announcement of Mr Hughes's death, and not only in Wales, but amongst Welshmen in all parts of the world the news of the sad event will be received with the greatest regret, for Ceiriog Hughes's name was a household word in almost every Welsh family. The deceased gentleman had been in failing health for several months past, and recently he had been confined to his room for some weeks, and notwithstanding all that the best medical skill could do, he got gradually weaker, and died about twenty minutes to three o'clock in the afternoon on Saturday, April 23, at his residence, Carnedd Villa, Caersws, at the comparatively early age of 54 years. Mr Hughes, who was the youngest son of the late Mr Richard Hughes, Penybryn, Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog, in the County of Denbigh, was born September 25, 1832, and his early days were passed at Penybryn, in that beautiful and romantic valley, which lies far away amongst the Berwyn mountains. When a young man he left his home for Manchester, where for some years he remained, holding a position of considerable responsibility. From Manchester he returned to Wales, and for some years held the position of stationmaster at Llanidloes, on the Cambrian Railway. About fourteen years ago he obtained the responsible position of manager of the Van Railway, a post which he held until his death.

The funeral, which in accordance with the wishes of the deceased was a private one, and of the most unostentatious character, took place on Tuesday, April 26, the remains being interred in Llanwnnog churchyard. The funeral cortege left the deceased's residence at 2 30 p.m., a brief service having been read by the Rev. D. Parry, M.A., the vicar of the parish, at the house before starting. The following was the order of the procession:—

Friends and Neighbours,
Hearse.
Mourning Carriages.
Relatives.

On reaching the church at Llanwnnog, which is about two miles from Caersws, as the procession entered, the music to "Days and moments quickly flying" (Dr. Dykes) was played on the organ by Mrs Arthur Hickman of the Vicarage. The Vicar read the opening portion of the burial service in English, the Rev. J. Hughes, curate, reading 1 Cor. xv. in Welsh, the concluding portion of the service being performed by the Vicar in English. As the procession was leaving the church Mrs Hickman played the "Dead March in Saul," and at the grave the service was performed by the Vicar in English. The vault was lined with moss, and the coffin, which was of polished oak, with massive brass fittings, and covered with beautiful wreaths, was lowered into the grave amidst manifest signs of deep sorrow. The following inscription was engraved on the plate:—

JOHN CEIRIOG HUGHES,
Died April 23rd, 1887,
Aged 54 years.

Wreaths were sent by Mr and Mrs Andrews, Mr and Mrs Emyln Evans, Mr and Mrs Evans, Belle Vue, Mr Francis, Station, Mr and Mrs H. M. Hughes, Mr and Mrs Arthur Ceiriog-Hughes, Mr and Mrs R. Hamer, Mr and Mrs Ellis Jones, Mr and Mrs Stuart Rendel, Dr. and Mrs Snow, Miss S. Spoonley, Mr and Mrs Thomas Williams, Miss Jones, Llwynmaysis, and Mr and Mrs George Hammond, and Miss Watkins, Oswestry.

Among those present were the Rev. D. Parry, M.A., Vicar of Llanwnnog, and the Rev. J. Hughes, Curate, Mr Nicholas Bennett, Glanrafon, Mr J. Jones, Henblas, Mr E. Jones, Henblas, Mr R. Jones, Perthelin, Mr R. Breese, Weeg, Mr W. H. Williams, Manager of Van Mines, Capt. Humphreys, Van Mines, Mr M. H. Davies, Trefeglwys, Mr W. Savage, Trefeglwys, Mr W. Jones, Cwmbernant, Mr Hugh Jerman, Llanidloes, Mr Richard Hamer, Llanidloes, Mr Thomas Jerman, Llanidloes, Mr David Smith, Trefeglwys, Mr Thos. Wigley, Trefeglwys, Mr Thos. Trow, Caersws, Mr John Francis, stationmaster, Caersws, Mr J. Aldridge, Caersws, Mr J. Evans, timber merchant, Caersws, Mr David Hughes, Penybryn, Llanarmon, Mr John Hughes, Blaenycwm, Llanarmon, Mr John Jones, jun., Cwmygeifr, Llanarmon, Mr Rd. Edwards, jun., Ty'nytwll, Llanarmon, Mr Richard Hughes, Forge Farm, Chirk, Mr H. M. Hughes, Oswestry, Mr Thomas Williams, Oswestry, Mr Ellis Jones, London; Messrs D. Jenkins, Mus. Bac., Aberystwyth, T. Marchant Williams, London, and W. Cadwaladr Davies, Bangor, represented the Cymmrodorion Society and the National Eisteddfod Association, and Mr Councillor Holt of Shrewsbury the Freemasons.

Telegrams and letters of sympathy with Mrs Ceiriog Hughes and the family, in their bereavement, were received from a large number of persons, amongst whom were Messrs. Stuart Rendel, M.P., David Davies, Broneirion, Llandinam, D. Evans, M.R.C.V.S., Haverfordwest, E. Vincent Evans, secretary of the National Eisteddfod Association, P. W. Corrigan, Royal Dublin Society, T. Marchant Williams, London, Stephen Evans, London, E. Rowley Morris, London, W. Cadwaladr Davies, Secretary of the North Wales College, Bangor, etc.

The funeral sermon in memory of the late Mr Ceiriog Hughes was preached before a large congregation on Sunday morning, May 1, at the Parish Church of Llanwnnog, by the Vicar, the Rev D. Parry. The following was the order of the service:—Venite, Hayes in A; Gloria, Hayes in A; Te Deum, Haydn, adapted from "The Heavens are telling"; Jubilate, Dr Stephen Elvey in F, double chant; 1st hymn, 284, Ancient and Modern, Tune "Langton," from S.P.C.K. Hymn Book; 2nd hymn, 266, Ancient and Modern; Kyrie, Kremer. Mrs Arthur Hickman presided at the organ. The Vicar took for his text II. Samuel iii.,

and part of the 38th verse, "Know ye not that there is a . . . great man fallen this day?" The rev. gentleman in the course of his remarks said:—According to a very old custom in this neighbourhood many of you have assembled here to-day to offer your last tribute of love and respect to him whose body was consigned to its last resting-place during the past week. It is as you well know my general practice to make but a passing allusion to the departed upon these solemn and sad occasions. Nothing is more abhorrent to me than to harrow the feelings of the bereaved, and by words of seeming sympathy to again tear open wounds which had begun to heal; but upon this occasion we have assembled to mourn the loss not only of the husband and the father and the neighbour, but also of a public man: I must therefore crave your indulgence for a few moments while I speak of him as such. I fear but few of you, in this English-speaking parish, were able to read his works, and fewer still to catch the harmony of his verse and the sweetness and purity of his thoughts. Whatever he wrote of—the home of his childhood, the garden with the brook, and the waterfall, and the white stone mid stream ("Y gareg wen"), and the bridge, and the overhanging willows,—are all described with a natural sweetness and pathos which make one long to see the place. And again, when in the stifling city, far away from murmuring brook and mountain wild, Oh! sweet are the outpourings of his soul yearning for the scenes where he seems to have spent a happy, although contemplative boyhood. These pieces are such that few can read without a tear stealing down their cheek, without feeling better for reading them. There are, too, many a song and verse so full of healthy humour as to be able to chase away sorrow and "corroding care," as every Welshman who has been in the habit of attending competitive or other public meetings can gladly testify. Added to this, I never read a line of his which could bring the blush of shame to a maiden's cheek. Lived then this man in vain because he did not accumulate wealth? because, however high his spirit might soar, he had to go the daily round of drudgery and toil? Will his name perish like yours and mine? Nay! The true poet never dies, and I believe that when the monuments which surround this Church shall have crumbled into dust, and the names which they bear be heard of no more, his name will then be familiar to all in the land he loved so well, and to which he has left so rich a legacy, which, like a crystal stream flowing from a pure fountain, will from age to age refresh the wayworn pilgrim, show him that others have yearned for home as he yearns; mourned, too, over a lost friend, but with uplifted thoughts to Heaven, and not fixed upon the grave, and teach him that amid all the worry of a busy life the poet and patriot cannot but pour forth words of consolation, of hope and joyousness. I, for one, feel thankful that God in his kindness now and again sends among us men whose whole aim is not sordid gain, but whose purer spirit wends its way on silvery wing, "like the wings of a dove," above all the petty meanness and coarseness of more common minds, and paints for us in burning words the bright scenes which it alone can visit now, and in all healthy minds implants higher aspirations after the beautiful and the good, the glory of God and the welfare of their fellow men. It is not given to us fully to understand the beautiful visions granted to such gifted spirits, nor is it given to us to know how much more sensitive they are, than more sluggish minds, to the ills and troubles of our daily life; but a poet, to whom our late friend has been justly likened, writes—

Deeply bought the hidden treasure
Finer feelings can bestow;
Chords that vibrate sweetest pleasure
Thrill the deepest notes of woe.

Therefore let us not repine at the humble position we are destined to occupy, but let each of us strive to do something for the glory of God.

After the service on Sunday, many friends visited Ceiriog's grave, which had been adorned with a profusion of beautiful wreaths and flowers, by loving hands.

The following englyn in memory of Mr Ceiriog Hughes was written by Mr H. M. Hughes, Oswestry.

O hyd, er tristyd y tro,—caru cof
Ceiriog Hughes wna'r Cynro;
A "Gwlad y gân" am dano
Hir wyla ar ei ol o.

"Morien," writing in the *Western Mail*, says—"Ceiriog," early in life, sojourned for a considerable time in Manchester, and was there employed in some capacity on a railway, but he had the harp of the mountains with him there, and I believe most of the songs which were afterwards published under the name "Orian'r Hwyr" (Hours of Night) were composed while he was at Manchester. The name of the book refers to the leisure hours, after his daily toil, during which the songs were penned. One of those songs, to "The harp of Wales in my father's house," composed at this time, is exquisitely pathetic, and there are few of the Welsh literati in any part of the world who have not stored it in their memory. It begins:—

Os pell yw telyn aur fy ngwlad,
O'm dwylaw musgrell i;
Os unig wyt o dy fy nhad,
Lle gynt chwaredid hi:
Mae'r iaith, er hynny, gyda swyn,
Fel ysprydoliaeth yn fy nwyn,
I ganu cerdd!

In this song he contemplates his own departure from this world, and concludes as follows:—

Os byw fy enw haner awr,
Na alwed neb fi ar y llawr,
Ond bardd y Garreg wen!

I give these quotations from memory. He was at the time of his death, judging by his appearance, not much over fifty years of age, and yet I find that at the Royal Eisteddfod at Llangollen in 1853 he was one of the adjudicators. That great eisteddfod was destined to bring "Ceiriog" into the notice of the whole Cambrian nation, as the result of a "Love Poem" he produced there, entitled "Myfanwy of Dinas Brân Castle, Llangollen, and Hywel ab Einion, the Bard." In this matchless Welsh love poem Myfanwy is described as the daughter of the Lord of Dinas Brân Castle, and the young bard, Hywel ab Einion, who is a local poet, is in love with the young lady of high degree. The young poet, consumed by intense love, sends Welsh verses to the patrician's only daughter, after the following style:—

Myfanwy, rwy'n gwled dy rudd
Mewn meillion, a briall, a rhos,
Yn ngoleu dibalog y dydd,
A llygad serenog y nos;
Pan godo teg Wener ei phen,
Yn loew rhwng awyr a lli,
Fe'i cerir gan ddaear a nen;
I fenaidd, Myfanwy,
Goleuach, O tecach wyt ti!
O na bawn yn awel o wynt,
Yn crwydro trwy ardd Dinas Bran,
I suo i'fth glust ar fy hyn,
A throelli dy wallt ar wahan!

If there be any English reader unable to read these Welsh lines I am sorry for him. It would be difficult to do the lines justice in an English translation. Then follows a description of the struggle between love and pride in the heart of Myfanwy, which is done in a masterly

manner. This poem is notable also as the first occasion when the custom of the ancient Welsh bards of carving their poems on revolving bars of wood, the ends of the bars fixed in a small frame, is introduced into a poem as being the manner in which the message of love was conveyed. The frames and bars bore the name Peithynen, and this style of composition was re-adopted by the Welsh bards after Henry IV. prohibited pens, ink, and paper from being imported into Wales. The wretched monarch thought he would be able to destroy Welsh literature by means of this scandalous public law.

With reference to Mr Hughes's literary work, the *Liverpool Daily Post* says:—Mr Ceiriog Hughes was the most popular of modern Welsh poets, and his beautiful pastoral "Myfanwy Fychan," which he wrote for the Llangollen Eisteddfod of 1858, proved him to be possessed of poetic genius of the first order; whilst his lyrics, wedded as they have been by Mr Brinley Richards to the national melodies of the Principality, brought him the title of the "Burns of Wales." His published works are "Oriau'r Bore," "Oriau'r Hwyr," "Oriau'r Haf," "Oriau Eraill," "Y Bardd a'r Cerddor," &c. He was a well known figure at the National Eisteddfod of Wales, where, as an adjudicator, his exquisite taste, ripe judgment, and strict integrity gave him a unique position, while his gentleness and humility, no less than his overflowing humour, which, with a profound pathos, was one of the chief characteristics of his writings, accounted for the genuine love with which he was regarded in the best social and literary circles of the Principality. Mr Hughes suggested to Mr Brinley Richards that he should compose "God bless the Prince of Wales," and wrote for him the Welsh words.

John Hughes, the Welsh Bard, who was best known as *Ceiriog*, died the other day at the early age of fifty-four. His memory will be cherished by Welshmen for what he did, and, by many more who knew him, for all he had wished to do, in connection with our Bardic Institutions. He was a son of the soil, and self made, for his education in his boyhood had been sorely neglected, although by an accident, he gained a grammatical knowledge of his mother tongue, when it had been intended to drive Lindley Murray into his young noddle. Huw Morris, the celebrated Welsh Bard, had dwelt at a place called *Pont-y-Mebion*, not very far from Ceiriog's birth place, and his well-known chair remained there to the boyish days of our modern poet. Huw Morris had left his mark behind him in his printed works, but the traditions of him, which remained, had to pass from lip to lip, and Ceiriog listened to them all with his ears, when his eyes were taken up in contemplation of Huw Morris's chair. Dame Nature had endowed the boy with a poetic soul, and every spot he beheld in his native home filled him with that longing for historic knowledge of the old people who had spent their gladdened lives upon the river side, the mountain slope, or in the peaceful valleys of Denbighland, so that we cannot wonder to find him growing up possessed of a consuming love for his native land. *The Motherland* is far more to a Welshman than his birth place. It is so to-day, and ever will be so; but half a century ago, when boys saw in their mothers the personification of all that was lovable and tender in the home circle, that home became to them a Mother-land, the one spot on God's earth where human nature and home surroundings seemed to combine to fix themselves permanently upon the heart. In that land the mother was born and nurtured, there she married, and gave birth to children, there she taught her offspring to see God in everything, and there she died and rested, when life's long

pilgrimage had ended; and so in after years the remembrances of a long past will return to us, and we wish to die in the Motherland, and to lay our bones in native earth, in close proximity to those we had loved so tenderly in the days of our childhood. This boy, as other boys have done, left his native Wales to seek his fortune in England, and for many years he dwelt at Manchester, vainly seeking for the riches which so often perish in the using. All this while his heart was in the highlands, and he found his life's delight in composing Welsh sonnets, and in dwelling upon the beauties of his old home. The home-longing grew upon him apace, and at last he left the busy haunts of commerce, and hasted back to the land of music and of song, and then I became acquainted with him, for he was earnestly bent, at that time, upon gathering about a new "Round Table" (*Y Ford Gron*) all Welshmen who had it in their hearts to bind into a great brotherhood the sons of Wales! He was already known to his countrymen as a Bard, but in his new character of a practical patriot he had to learn that Welshmen did not greatly differ from other peoples, and that, however deeply they might be touched emotionally, they were slow enough in giving practical effect to their love of country. The *Ford Gron* looked well on paper; it was designed to be of service to Welshmen, but it did not take, and it is only now, when its chief promoter has passed away, that men begin to feel how sterling was this man's love of country, and how much he must have suffered, when he beheld how slowly that love of his was responded to, by those who even admitted "it was a good institution." I always doubted its utility, and unwillingly told him so, but now, as in the past, my convictions run in one direction, and my admiration for the man himself in another. The fact, however, remains that *Ceiriog* was animated in all he did by a desire to serve Wales; and now that his voice is silenced, and his remains have been laid in the grave, we owe it to the memory of the man to shed some tears over his tomb. I think it was *Idris Vychan* who once said of *Ceiriog*—

Erys ei waith wedi'r oes hon,—yn fyw
Ar fil o'n halawon;
Iawn y tery cantorion
Ar add dant ryw beraidd dôn.

That appreciative stanza rightly applies the truth to the man's work, and his name will live, and will flourish in long years to come, even though the remembrance of his good intentions may have faded away altogether. How curiously first and last impressions become fixed upon the memory! Some years ago a very dear friend of mine called upon me to ask me a question about *Ceiriog*, which would have escaped my memory, if he had not brought with him a friend whose face and sweet smile fixed themselves on my mind, and so enabled me to remember the day when that interview took place. Three years ago I saw that same friend for the last time, and he looked in my eyes with a longing desire in his own that I should perform an act he had set his heart upon, and we again conversed about the very incident I have just alluded to. The cruel hand of death snatched him away from us soon afterwards, but the two faces I had looked upon are, at this moment of writing, under my eye. And so, I remember the first and the last time I saw John Hughes, and can recall to my mind his anxious wish that we might find a common ground of agreement in his desire to serve the Motherland. How vain are my regrets to-day that I did not at once comply with the requests made to me. And so we live our lives in this passing existence of ours, longing and regretting, until our own summons comes, and in our turn we ourselves pass away to the land of forgetfulness. In this man's

published works his name will live on, and as our children take up his "Orian'r Bore," and "Orian'r Hwyr," they will find some traces of the morning and evening hours of his life, and will say, "This man did not live in vain." We lose sight of his humble birth, his unrequited labours, and his toilsome career, in the mental excellences of the bard and writer, and at once give him a niche in that temple of fame, where great minds dwell for all times, and men are judged of by their works, and not by their failures. What a wondrous thing it is that dead men's lives should so often fill our hearts with joy, and that knowing them not in the flesh, we learn to know them thoroughly in their works, and to love them for their work's sake! CEIRIOG, though dead, lives, and I think of him now as a man to be remembered ever.

G. A.

At a recent meeting of the Literary Committee of the National Eisteddfod, 1887, a vote of condolence was passed with Mrs. Ceiriog Hughes, regretting the death of her husband the late "Ceiriog." The following letter has been received by the Literary Secretary from Mrs Hughes:—"Carnedd Villa, Caersws, May 6th, 1887. Mrs Ceiriog Hughes begs to return her sincere thanks for the kind expression of sympathy from your committee, and assures them that she appreciated their kindness to herself and respect for the memory of her dear husband."

Mr Beriah Gwynfe Evans writes:—By the kindness of a personal friend, I am enabled to give the following extracts from the bard's will:—"I desire that my funeral shall be a private one, and that my body shall be interred at Llanarmon-Dyffryn-Ceiriog, and that a mural tablet shall be erected in the parish church to my memory, near to that of my late departed mother. . . I prefer the Church of England Funeral Service, and desire that permission be sought from the proper authorities to plant an Irish yew at the head of my grave." Some time before his death he had composed the following "Englyn" (stanza), for the purpose of having it engraved on his tombstone:—

Carodd eirian cerddorol,—carodd feirdd,
Carodd fywn naturiol,
Carodd gerdd yn angerddol,
Dyma ei lwch, a dim lol.

I am given to understand that there is a general feeling that something should be done to show our appreciation of our national lyrical bard. It is perhaps somewhat premature to suggest what form the national memorial should take, but those who feel that something ought to be done should place themselves at once in communication with Mr T. Marchant Williams, 4, Paper Buildings, Temple, London, E.C., who has, I believe, consented to act as honorary secretary, pro. tem.

We are informed that, although Mr Ceiriog Hughes expressed in his will a wish to be buried at Llanarmon, he afterwards told his intimate friend Mr Bennett, of Glanryafon, that "he did not desire it now," but desired to be buried wherever his wife and family might wish, so that his last wishes were not disregarded as might otherwise appear.

The following stanzas in memory of "Ceiriog," have been composed by Mr Charles ap Thomas, Plâs Ynca, Singwell-road, Gravesend:—

Farewell! thou Paragon of matchless song,
Rare merit to thy classic lines belong:
Old Gwalia's sons will ever chant thy fame,
And wreath fresh laurels 'round that Bardic Name.
Comrades in Verse will stand beside thy shrine,
And shed a tear o'er that green tomb of thine
Whilst "Tal," "Mynyddog" with an Angel choir,
Will hail thy advent on a distant shore.

The following "In Memoriam" Acrostic has been sent us by an old friend of Ceiriog's:—

C ambria mourns thee! most illustrious of her sons of song!
E isteddfodau have lost thee, from among the bardic throng;
I n grief thy comrades bow their heads, for they will mourn thee long.
R are genius; Thy poetic soul hath quit its mortal clay,
I n bright celestial choirs, we trust, thy muse now tunes its lay;
O h! we should rather joy to think thou'st joined that Heavenly Host,
G od's will is, that He takes to Him, those whom He loveth most.
K. P.

The Late Mr. Atcherley of Marton Hall.

We regret to record the death of Mr David Francis Atcherley of Marton Hall, Baschurch, of Cymman, Flintshire, and of Whatcroft Hall, Middlewich. Mr Atcherley, who was in his sixty-ninth year, and had for some time been in weak health, died in London at 10 30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 3. Mr Atcherley was the eldest son of the late Mr Sergeant Atcherley of Marton Hall, by his marriage with Ann Margaret, daughter of Mr James Topping of Whatcroft Hall, Cheshire. Born in 1818, he was educated at Harrow and Christ Church, Oxford, taking his degree in 1844, and subsequently qualifying for the bar. He succeeded his father in 1845, and in 1866 he married Minnie Amburst, daughter of the late Mr Courtenay Stacey, of Sandling, Kent, and has issue a daughter, who with her mother survives Mr Atcherley. He was a justice of the peace and a deputy lieutenant of Shropshire, was in the commission for Flintshire, and in 1864 he served the office of High Sheriff of Shropshire. Mr Atcherley was Lord of the Manor of Marton, and has filled the office of President of the Shropshire Chamber of Agriculture. Mr Atcherley was at one time one of the most active justices in the Hundred of Pimhill; his kindness was proverbial, and his unstinted but unostentatious charity will be missed by his poorer neighbours, who always found in him a kind and considerate friend. Mr Atcherley is succeeded in the Atcherley estates by his nephew, Mr Francis K. H. Atcherley, eldest son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Atcherley, who served with distinction in the Crimean War, and subsequently in the Fenian rising in Canada. Mr F. R. H. Atcherley, who is 22, now holds a commission in the 3rd Battalion King's Shropshire Light Infantry. The remains of the deceased gentleman were interred at Middle on Monday, when the service was taken by the Rector, the Rev. G. H. Egerton. The interment was attended by a large number of neighbours. The coffin plate bore the inscription—

David Francis Atcherley,
Born 1st July, 1818,
Died 3rd May, 1887.

A large number of wreaths were sent, including one from the Earl and Countess of Mar. The general procession was led by the tenants on the estate and the tradespeople of Marton and Baschurch, about forty in number. The principal mourners were Mrs Atcherley, who, though ill, followed the remains, leaning on the arm of Mr F. R. H. Atcherley, and supported by Miss Atcherley. There were also in the procession—Mr T. Slaney Eyton, Mr Rowland Hunt, Mr Richard Wall, Captain Dicken, Mr J. H. N. Walford, Dr Sandford, Dr Corke, and Mr John Kenny of Guy's Hospital, &c.; and the carriages of Mrs Darby of Adeote, Mr Alfred Darby of Little Ness, and Colonel Edwards of Great Ness, with drawn blinds, followed the remains.

MAY 18, 1887.

NOTES.

FOLK LORE.—A WITCH STORY.—An old woman went to a farm house on the confines of Radnorshire, up above Kerry parish, Montgomeryshire, begging. She was told to leave the place, as they had nothing to give away. The old woman departed, and it was seen by some one who watched her that she took away with her out of the farm yard a fistful of straw. The next day a healthy calf died; and day after day, one after the other, calf after calf, died. The farmer went to a conjuror, and told him all about the old woman's visit, of their unkindness to her, and how she had taken straw with her away. The conjuror told the farmer to take the heart of the next calf that should die and prick it all over with a fork, adding that the person who had witched him and brought about the death of his calves would then appear and ask for something, and that they were to give her whatever she asked. A calf died shortly after the farmer's visit to the conjuror, and, acting on the instructions received, its heart was taken out of its body, and the farmer began pricking it with a fork, and for a while he continued doing so; then, while in the very act of driving the fork to the very handle into the heart, the old beggar woman appeared, and she seemed to be suffering agonies of pain, and rushing into the house she said, "In the name of God what are you doing here." The farmer did not pretend that he was doing anything in particular, and when he saw the beggar he stopped the work he was engaged in, and the beggar was instantly relieved of her bodily pain, and now she requested the gift of a few potatoes, which were instantly given her, and she departed, and no more calves died.

E. O.

DEFENCE OF DENBIGH CASTLE 1643-1646.—In the Appendix to the Fourth Report of the Royal Commission on Historical MSS., p. 343, the following very interesting references to a correspondence that took place between W. Salusbury (who defended Denbigh Castle in the interest of the King) and several Correspondents, deserve to be reproduced in *Bye-Gones*.

1643, Nov. 14, Wrexham.—Sir Thomas Middleton to the Governor of Denbigh Castle.—A friendly long letter inviting him to deliver it up.

1643, Nov. 15.—W. Salusbury's answer.—Will surrender when commanded by the King and Parliament.

1646, April 7th, Ruthin.—General Tlios. Mutton to Salusbury.—Asks him not to go on resisting, but make use of him as an instrument to make Salusbury's peace with Parliament.

1646, April 8, Denbigh Castle.—Salusbury's answer.—He will keep it to the last gasp.

1646, April 17th, Denbigh Town.—General Mytton's summons to surrender it on Monday next by 9 o'clock.

1646, April 18.—Salusbury's answer.—Resolved to make good this place till he receives the King's command and warrant of his discharge. The Bumpkins' petition, signed by Symon Thelwall, and 47 others, asking him (Salusbury) to give it up.

1646, May 16.—Salusbury's answer.—Declines.

1646, June 24th, Llewenny.—Mytton's summons. Alludes to the surrender of Carnarvon, Beaumaris, and the whole Isle of Anglesey. Summons to surrender. Allows him till Saturday at noon.

No date.—Salusbury replies.—Asks Mytton's consent that he may send two gentlemen to the King to know his pleasure, when he sees the authority from the King and Parliament he will return a plain answer.

1646, Aug. 30, Denbigh.—Mytton invites Salusbury to treat for surrender.

No date.—Salusbury says he has received no answer to his request to send to the King—repeats it.

1646, 31 Aug.—Mytton to Salusbury.—The Parliament will not allow any sending; must have an answer by 3 this afternoon.

1646, Aug., the last.—Salusbury.—The coming of more forces to besiege will not move him.

No date.—Salusbury to the King.—The Castle has for several months been besieged. Refers for particulars to Mr Eubull Thelwall, the bearer.

13 Sept., Newcastle.—The King to Salusbury (1.) Thanks for loyalty. For answer refers to his messenger.

1646, Sep. 14, Newcastle.—The King to the Governor.—Authority to surrender on honourable conditions.

ZETA.

FOOTBALL ON SHROVE TUESDAY (March 16, 1887).—The following extract from a daily paper of the present year may be admitted into *Bye-Gones* (although it does not refer to Wales or the Border Counties), because it shows that the ancient custom of playing football on Shrove Tuesday, recently discussed in this column, is still kept up at Dorking.

W.O.

The ancient custom of playing a football match in the public streets on Shrove Tuesday is still perpetuated in the old Surrey town of Dorking, the inhabitants of all classes giving it a cordial support, and submitting to a considerable amount of inconvenience for the sake of preserving the popular vestige of Old English sport. Yesterday the game was carried on with a new zest arising from rumours of its approaching extinction, and the streets were thronged, not only by residents of every degree, but by many visitors from neighbouring towns, who, having failed to maintain the pastime in their own locality, came to share the enjoyments of the more privileged community. In the morning a deputation of the footballers, carrying a trophy of footballs, and accompanied by a few musicians, waited upon the householders and received liberal largesse, the fund collected being intended to pay for any damage which might ensue to windows and other property, and to provide a supper at night. The shops were all closed in the afternoon or barricaded according to the owner's fancy, and in the end there was very little mischief to repair. At two o'clock the ball was kicked out into the High-street from the Church-passage in the middle of the town, and the crowd took sides east and west, the object of the struggle on either side being to retain the ball in its own quarter of the town when the clock should strike six. The excitement grew every hour, as fresh crowds joined the contest, and from five till six o'clock there were as many as two thousand persons following the game. Once the leather sphere reached the river Mole, but it was speedily rescued; and it many times found its way into taverns, from which, according to established rule, it was thrown

(1) Lord Bagot possesses a skull cap given by King Charles I. to Major Salusbury: it is of maroon silk, ornamented with gold and silver lace and spangles; also the linen waistband of the Major, divided into 18 compartments, holding 21 gold pieces (17 Broad and 4 scepters) of the reigns of Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I. In the cabinet with these is an autograph letter of Charles I. to Salusbury, thanking him for his loyalty, and promising rewards if ever he got an opportunity. It is dated in 1646. There is also the ornament of the Order of the Leek worn by Charles 2nd. The root of the leek is made of pearls.

out of upper windows. Notwithstanding some rough play, perfect good temper prevailed, and there were no accidents worth mention. The sides being well matched, the contest fluctuated up and down several times; but for the last fifteen minutes the battle raged close to the boundary line, finally terminating in a narrow victory for the west.

QUERIES.

JOHN JONES OF NANTEOS, ESQ.—Temp. Commonwealth. In volume xxxv. of the First Series of Royalist Composition, there is a set of papers relating to the Sequestration of the estate of John Jones of *Nantius (sic)* in the county of Cardigan, Esq., a barrister who, after the wars began, “did write, print, and publish a booke in defence of the Kings acc’ons against the Parliament,” for which offence he was sequestered. Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* say what year the book was published, and describe the character of its contents, printer’s name, &c. Z.

REPLIES.

THE PROPOSED CREATION OF A MERIONETH BOROUGH (Oct. 13, 1886).—I availed myself of an opportunity the other day when at the British Museum to look at Hansard, and see if there were any reference to the Petition from the inhabitants of Merionethshire, expressing a desire for the creation of a Borough Constituency in that county. I am sorry I could not see any such reference in the years 1829-30-31. If such a Petition had been presented to Parliament, I should have seen a reference to it. I did find the following, in the debate, which is headed *Opinions in Wales*. On Wednesday, 22 June, 1831, Sir W. W. Wynn presented a petition from the County of Denbigh in favour of Parliamentary Reform, which the Petitioners considered essential to the safety of the Realm, also a Petition from Llanrwst, praying that in the event of Parliamentary Reform, their Town might be Contributory to the Borough of Denbigh. Mr Alderman Waithman supported the prayer of the Petition (3rd series, Vol. iv., p. 239), and (Vol. v., pp. 1131-1151), in Committee the whole question of the Welsh Boroughs was discussed, and is reported at considerable length, but there is no mention in the report about a Merioneth Borough. Perhaps I ought to have looked at the proceedings a year or two earlier. I should think a file of the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, *North Wales Chronicle*, or *Chester Courant*, might have some allusion to such a matter, if it occurred. PEARMAIN.

GEORGE III.’S JUBILEE.—*Continued.* (March 30, May 11, 1887.)

MERIONETHSHIRE.

BALA.—At Bala the Jubilee day was celebrated by an attendance at the respective places of worship, where collections were made in aid of general subscriptions in the town and neighbourhood, for supplying the poor with clothing and bedding. There was also a public dinner at the Bull Inn, R. W. Price, Esq., in the chair, when his Majesty’s health was drunk, with the warmest effusions of loyalty, and the day closed with the utmost hilarity and good humour.

DOLGELLEY.—The morning was ushered in by an enlivening peal on the new bells, the incessant roaring of cannon, and reiterated acclamations of joy, until 11 o’clock, when the inhabitants repaired to church, and to other

places of public worship, to return thanks to the Divine Disposer of all events, for his benignity exemplified in the preservation of our beloved Sovereign, and the blessings enjoyed in his favoured dominions. At one o’clock, every male and female pauper in the parish participated in the festivity, being regaled with Welsh mutton, and as much Welsh ale as was comfortable and proper; and there remained a surplus of a considerable sum of money reserved for the purchase of a quantity of flannel, the peculiar staple manufacture of the town, and each was supplied with a quantity to defend them from the piercing blasts of winter. At the same time, not a debtor, little or great, was left within the confines of the county gaol. At three o’clock, all the gentlemen of the town and county sat down to an elegant dinner at the Golden Lion Inn, when appropriate toasts, songs and sentiments were given. The evening was spent with the utmost conviviality, and in a manner highly expressive of their loyalty. Sir Robert Vaughan, though uniting in the general expense here, with that benevolent disposition by which he is so eminently distinguished and characterised, distributed a prodigious fine ox to the poor of his adjoining parish, in portions of 5lbs. to each in a family; and on the summit of that stupendous mountain called Foel Offwm, the splendid side of which adorns the verdant Vale of Dolgelley, he had ordered a bonfire, which was of magnitude sufficient to throw lustre over the greatest part of that highly admired vale, the beauty of which was beyond every force of description. On that spot his five large cannon were in continual roar, the thunder of which, from their elevated situation, must have been distinctly heard over the major part of the adjoining counties. His munificence did not rest here, for on the following day a most elegant and sumptuous dinner, with an exuberant quantity of the choicest wines, was provided at his hospitable mansion, of which most of the respectable gentlemen in the county most heartily partook.

CURRENT NOTES.

A memorial organ and window have been presented to the parish church of Llanfachreth, Merionethshire, by Miss Vaughan, in memory of her sister.

The death is announced of the Rev. R. Bowen Jones, rector of Kilymaenllwyd, with Castellwyrain, on the borders of Carmarthen and Pembroke. The deceased gentleman was a justice of the peace for the county of Pembroke, and one of the oldest clergymen in the diocese, having been ordained in 1835. He had held these livings for forty-six years. The livings are worth £240, and are in the gift of the Lord Chancellor.

The inhabitants of Lampeter and district have been startled by some extraordinary rainfalls. The showers, which were heavy, came down in unusually large drops, in colour very much like porter. Where quantities were caught in vessels, the water, if such it could be called, appeared as black as ink. Many theories are advanced to explain this remarkable phenomenon; but the one generally accepted is that the showers came from the peat bogs in the south of Ireland opposite this part of the Welsh coast line, or that they were some of the black waters of Stroud. The showers had a singular effect upon the land, making the grass and also ploughed fields quite dark and black in places. Similar showers were reported from Ireland.

The following is an extract from the *Otago Daily Times*:—“We have to record the removal of another of Otago’s early land-marks by the death of Mr James George Lewis, at his

residence, Knowbury Villa, Clyde Street, at the advanced age of 88 years. The deceased was a native of Shropshire, England, where he owned large iron and coal works, giving employment to over 600 men, some of the shafts being at that time the deepest in England. He had the reputation of being the most skilful and successful ironmaster of his day. He built and opened the first blast furnace in the Clee Hill, where he established extensive brick and pipe works."

Tatton is a grand old house, and the interesting panelled rooms which were inhabited by Lord Chancellor Egerton still remain in the left wing. The mansion was rebuilt and enlarged during the first ten years of the present century by Wyatt, who designed the principal front, which is in the stately classical style of which that architect was so fond after he had studied at Rome under Vincentini. The house is now being somewhat altered by Mr Blomfield, who superintended the restoration of Chester Cathedral. There are many interesting pictures at Tatton, a splendid collection of old china, and a very fine library; but the great feature of the place is the park, which comprises 2,500 acres, and which has been for centuries a genuine deer-park. It is splendidly timbered, and is remarkable for the size of its ferns, and for the rookery in the old avenue, which is one of the largest in England. There is an immense natural lake in the park, upwards of a mile in length, and of great depth. It is known as Tatton Mere. Lord Egerton's "stately home" is only twelve miles from Manchester, but it is situated in a pastoral country.

With reference to the questions recently put by Mr T. Ellis and Mr Bowen Rowlands as to the possibility of calendaring and printing ancient Welsh manuscripts, it may be interesting to point out that there are in the Record-office piles of valuable documents relating to the forest of Snowdon and to land in Wales generally, the publication of which would, doubtless, give to the light an immense amount of information not only with regard to ordinary land transactions, but with regard to the ancient land system of Wales. The Hengwrt MSS. at Peniarth, and the collections at other Welsh mansions also demand the attention of the Government and the Historical Manuscripts Commission. It is now more than forty years since any official attention was paid to the ancient records of Wales, the most recent official publication being that of "The Ancient Laws of Wales," in 1846. The neglect of Governments has to some extent, however, been counteracted by the self sacrifice of two Celtic scholars at Oxford—Professor Rhys and Mr J. G. Evans—who have published the "Mabinogion," through the Clarendon Press, at their own risk, and are preparing to republish "The Black Book of Carmarthen."

The fifth annual reunion of "Old Oswestrians" was held on Saturday evening, May 7, at the Holborn Restaurant, when the chair was occupied by Mr G. Dumville Lees, an "old boy," and a warm supporter and upholder of the traditions of Oswestry School. His Worship the Mayor of Oswestry (Mr Lacon) occupied the vice-chair, and for the first time in the history of the Re-union gave the town as distinguished from the School a proper representation at the festive board. It is sincerely to be hoped that this is but the commencement of a new era in this respect, for, after all, the interests of the School and the town are so closely united that it would be sheer folly, especially for Oswestrians from home, to keep them apart. It was cheering on this occasion to see a muster of new faces at the annual gathering, indicating that there is a large reserve to be yet drawn upon before the Reunion is as thoroughly complete and representative as it should be. Saddening, however, it was to miss many old

faces, those who from the first have taken most active interest in the movement. A good dinner of the usual pattern and well served was provided by Messrs Spiers and Pond. The list of toasts followed much on the usual lines, the toast of the evening, "The Town of Oswestry and the Oswestry Grammar School" being given by the Chairman.

WOODCOCK BREEDING IN NORTH WALES.—A woodcock hatched off a sitting of four eggs on May 3, in one of our coverts near here. It is quite an exceptional incident in this part of the country.—*G. Bleazard, Pool Park, Ruthin, in the Field.*

OTTERS IN NORTH WALES.—A correspondent writes :—Otters are greatly infesting the trout streams in Carnarvonshire, and the sportsmen and gentry of the district have resolved to rid themselves of these pests by establishing an otter hunt. A most successful beginning was made on the Pennant and adjacent streams a little below Llanystumdwy. Two otters were driven from their hides in one pool. For four hours and a half the chase was maintained the otters taking refuge in the deep pools, and secreting themselves under the roots of large trees on the banks. Occasionally the sportsmen were waist deep in water, endeavouring to tail the animals. Eventually the hounds pulled down one otter, and the other escaped in the earth under the river banks. The hounds were in charge of the Master, Mr Evan Jones, of Ynysfor.

THE LLANIDLOES MAYORAL CHAIN.—The chain of office for the Mayors of Llanidloes has been delivered by the makers, Messrs Bragg of Birmingham. The following is a description of it :—The chain and badge, or pendant, is of sterling gold, and contains eighteen highly chased links, the larger links having tablets for engraving the names of successive Mayors, also a cube link having maces at side and bearing in enamel monograms the indication of the Jubilee year of the borough of Llanidloes. The badge is of larger size, having the blazoned arms of the borough in correct enamel colours, with lion argent and mural crown, with name over and legend "Borough of prescription," with crossed leeks and croziers at side. The reverse side contains an inscription stating that the chain was presented to the Mayors of Llanidloes by public subscription to commemorate the Jubilee of her Majesty Queen Victoria, and also the Jubilee year of the borough under the Municipal Corporations Acts, and also gives the names of the committee. The cost of the chain is £220.

THE MAIDENS' LAKE.

The following is the introduction to the legend of the "Maidens' Lake," in Mr Lewis Morris's new volume of poems :—

By fair Festiniog, 'mid the Northern Hills,
The vales are full of beauty, and the heights,
Thin-set with mountain sheep, show statelier far
Than in the tamer South. There the stern round
Of labour rules, a silent land, sometimes
Loud with the blast that buffets all the hills
Whereon the workers toil in quarries hewn
Upon the terraced rocksides. Tied on tier,
Above the giddy depths, they edge and cling
Like flies to the sheer precipice as they strike
The thin cleft slate. For solace of their toil
Song comes to strengthen them, and songlike verse
In the old Cymric measures, and the dream
Of fame when all the listening thousands round
Are ranged in Session, and the rapt array
Expectant of the singer's soaring voice,

Or full quire rising thund'rous to the skies
The sheathed swords and the sacred Chair of oak
Where sits the Bard. But most of all they prize
Old memories of the Past, forgotten feuds,
And battles long ago. One tale they tell
Of a deep tarn upon the mountain side,
Llyn y Morwynion, called "The Maidens' Lake;"
And thus it is the fair old story runs.

THE WELSH PRAYER BOOK.

At a meeting of the clergy and laity of the Wrexham Rural Deanery, held in the County Buildings, Wrexham, yesterday, the Rev. Canon Howell presiding, and amongst those present being Mr W. Trevor Perkins, hon. secretary, the Rev. E. W. Edwards, Ruabon, the Rev. W. Taliesin Davies, Ruabon, the Rev. J. W. Thomas, and the Rev. Mr Jones, Rhosymedre, the Rev. J. Evans-Jones, Wrexham, the Rev. Hugh Roberts, Brymbo, Sir R. E. Egerton, Mr J. R. Burton, Mr T. P. Jones-Parry, Mr John Lewis, Mr L. L. Powell, Mr E. Phillips, &c.,

The Rev. E. W. EDWARDS read a paper on "The imperfect character of the Welsh Version of the Prayer Book," and distributed slips giving suggested improvements of the text. In his paper he said the Prayer Book, both in English and Welsh, though it could be traced in almost every part to Latin and Greek rituals, which had been used for at least fourteen or fifteen hundred years in the Church, had evidently been written at different times. In Welsh there was a marked difference between the Morning and Evening Prayer, and between the portion which first came into use and that which was written afterwards. What, at their last Chapter he only conjectured, had since been established as a fact, that the translation of the Bible and of the Prayer Book was the work of the same men; and he had discovered that a former Vicar of Ruabon (1570-1598), David Powell, D.D., who "Englished the History of Wales written originally in British by Caradoc of Llancarvan," was one of the translators. It was evidence of King Alfred's sense of the learning of the Welsh that when in 870 he wanted assistance in his studies and government he sent for John de Evigena, who was born at Menavia, or St. Davids, where he was brought up, and afterwards became the first professor and public reader at Oxford. King Alfred also had the ancient laws of Dyfnwal Moelmud, King of Britain, and those of Queen Marsia, translated from British to English. It was about 110 that the metropolitan Church of Wales, that of Menavia, became subject to the See of Canterbury, and in 1146 Tygwyn, the first monastery read of in Wales after the destruction of the famous house of Bangor, was built. Monasteries thenceforth were multiplied; that of Llanegwest or Valle Crucis was built in 1170, and the Church of Rhiwabon, one of the ancient British churches said to have been founded by Mabon in the sixth century, became a chapel served from Valle Crucis. The fresco work recently discovered on the south wall was probably the work of monks about this period. There was no doubt that the Liturgy of the Ancient British Church was different from the Roman Liturgy. Palmer in his *Origines Liturgicæ* concluded that the liturgy of the Ancient British Church was derived from the Gallican Liturgy, and that the orders were probably derived from Gaul, the first mention of bishops of the British Church being in the fourth century. The name to this day given to the Church in Wales, *Eglwys Loegr*, Church of England, would seem to indicate a time when there was a British Church distinct from the Saxon Church, founded by St. Augustine. In the eighth of Queen Elizabeth an Act was passed ordering the Bishops before March, 1566, to provide a translation of the Bible, the Book of Common Prayer, and the Administration of the Sacraments, in Welsh, and the New Testament and the Prayer Book were translated by R. Davies, Bishop of St. David's, assisted by William Salesbury. In 1588 all the Bible was translated by Bishop Morgan, then of Llandaff, assisted by the Bishops of St Asaph and Bangor, Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster, David Powell, D.D., Edmund Price, Archdeacon of Merioneth, and Richard Vaughan. That was as far as he proposed to enter into the history of the Prayer Book. He made no claim to set up as an authority on Welsh language or literature. Any Welshman who could appreciate the fine distinctions

of which the language was capable, could see intuitively when those distinctions were disregarded. In many instances the sentences and periods wanted the melody, the rhythm and harmony, the perspicuity, directness and force of good Welsh. There were also occasionally syntactical errors, the second person substituted for the third, and the indefinite for the definite article. It was obvious there were few things more necessary to prevent Disestablishment, or if it must come, to strengthen the Church in its work when Disestablished, than that the language of the Welsh Prayer Book should be thoroughly in accord with the present *usus loquendi* of the people. At the same time the present version had grown nearly sacred in the minds of many, and alteration might be deprecated. (Hear, hear.)—It was considered that the matter could not be effectively discussed in a gathering which included many who did not understand Welsh. A resolution was, however, on the motion of the Rev E. W. Edwards, seconded by the Rev J. W. Jones, adopted, referring the question to the four Welsh Bishops, and if the alterations suggested, or any others, were deemed desirable, it was the opinion of the meeting that four Welsh Churchmen should be appointed to assist the Bishops and a Committee in a revision of the Welsh Prayer Book, the revision to be submitted to Convocation for approval.

MAY 25, 1887.

NOTES.

SALOP—MUSTER ROLLS.—40 Elizabeth.—An Indenture between the Commissioners of the above county and the captain who received the 150 soldiers levied in the county for the Queen's service in Ireland, dated 11th July. The names of the soldiers appear. One sheet of paper in very good condition. (⁶⁹/₅₈)—Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer's Miscellanea.—Army, vol. x.) Z.

FOLK LORE.—DEATH RAPS.—In "Adam Bede" we are told that when Adam was working by night at the coffin that his father had neglected to make, he heard a smart rap at the door of the workshop, a peculiar sound. Gyp, the dog, growled, and Adam was at the door immediately, but saw nothing. The rapping came again, and Adam again failed to discover anyone. He could not help shuddering as he remembered how often his mother had told him of just such a sound coming as a sign when some one was dying. This belief in death raps is common to many parts of Wales. I have been told of an old carpenter who lived near Llanidloes who said he always heard some one at work in his shop before a coffin was to be made. He knew the peculiar sound of the spirit workman, and was in the habit of speaking of having heard the sign of some one's death. The name of a person was lately given me who heard the death rap at her door. She thought it was a friend, and opened the door expecting to greet an acquaintance, but all that met her view was a white hand extending towards her, as if about to shake her hand with a sad farewell. The fright of the woman can easily be imagined, and the announcement of the death of a friend was received with the thought that that friend had come in part to bid her good bye. This tale belongs to a part of Shropshire not far from Montgomery town. E.O.

DR. JOHN DEE.—There have been one or two references in *Bye-Gones* to this famous conjuror. Lately scanning the number of the *European Magazine* for

November, 1798, I discovered "Dr. Dee's Petition," as follows:—

THE TRUE COPIE OF M. JOHN DEE HIS PETITION TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTIE, EXHIBITED ANNO 1604, JUNII 5, AT GRENEWICH.

To the King's Most Excellent Majestie.

In most humble and lamentable manner beseecheth your Royall Majestie your Highnesse most distressed servant JOHN DEE: That as by the grace and providence of the Almighty you are our king, our earthly supreme head and judge; so it may please your sacred Majestie, eyther in your owne royall presence and hearing; or of the lordes of your Majesties most honourable privie counsell; or of the present assembled parliament states; to cause your Highnesse sayd servant to be tryed and cleared of that horrible and damnable, and to him most grievous and damageable sclaunder, generally and for these many yeeres last past in this kingdome rayseed and continued by report and print against him: namely, That he is or hath bin a *Conjuror* and *Caller* or *Invoker* of *divels*. Upon which most ungodly and false report, so boldly, unjustly, and impudently avouched; yea, and uncontrolled, and hitherto unpunished, for so many yeeres continuin (albeit your Majesties said suppliant hath published in print divers his earnest apologies against it), yet some impudent and malicious forraine enemy, or traytor to the flourishing state and honour of this kingdome, hath in print (anno 1592, 7 Januarii) affirmed your Majesties said suppliant to be the *Conjuror* belonging to the most honorable privie counsell of your Majesties most famous last predecessor (Queene Elizabeth): so that seeing the said most abominable sclaunder is become so highly haynous and disgracefull that it pretendeth great discredit and disliking to be had also of the said most honorable lords of your Majesties privie counsell (as to use any *Conjuror's* advise and your said suppliant to be the man): it therefore seemeth (upon divers respects) to be very needefull due and speedy order to be taken herein by your Majesties wisdom and supreme authoritie (by one of the three foresaid meanes or any other) to have your Highnesse said suppliant to be tryed in the premisses: who offereth himselfe willingly to the punishment of death (yea, eyther to be stoned to death, or to be buried quicke, or to be burned unmercifully), if by any due, true, and just meanes, the said name of *Conjuror* or *Caller* or *Invoker* of *divels* or damned spiritues can be proved to have bene, or to be duely or justly reported of him, or attributed unto him: yea (good and gracious King) if any one of all the great number of the very strange and frivolous fables or histories reported and told of him (as to have bene of his doing) were true as they have bene told or reasonably caused any wondering among or to the many headed multitude or to any other, whosoever els. And then your Highnesse said suppliant (upon his said justification and clearing made herein) will conceive great and undoubted hope that your Majestie will soone after more willingly have princely regard of redressing of your Highnesse said suppliant his farder greefes and hinderances, no longer of him possibly to be endured, so long hath his utter undoing by little and little bene most unjustly compassed. The Almighty and most mercifull God alwayes direct your Majesties royall heart in his wayes of justice and mercy, as is to him most acceptable, and make your Majestie to be the most blessed and triumphant Monarch that ever this Brytish Empire enjoyed. Amen.

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

NOVELS RELATING TO WALES. — THE FRENCH AT FISHGUARD (Feb. 23, 1887.) — "Gladys of Harlech" is a three-volume novel. The

period of history taken is that occupied by the Wars of the Roses, when Queen Margaret took refuge in the Castle which Davydd ap Einion so manfully defended in subsequent days against Sir Richard Herbert. The novel does not end as most novels do; but it is a most interesting book and one written by a person who is no novice in the study of Welsh character. While on this subject I may add that I have recently had given me, "Memoirs of Owen Glyndower [who has also been made the subject of a novel] with a sketch of the History of the Ancient Britons, from the Conquest by Edward the First to the present time. . . . By the Rev. Thomas Thomas, Rector of Aberporth, Perpetual Curate of Llanddewi Aberarth, and Author of the St. David's Prize Essay for 1810, on the Study of the Hebrew Language." The book was printed in 1822 at Haverfordwest by Joseph Potter. The book concludes with the Landing of the French at Fishguard, which is narrated in the following racy style—

On Wednesday, February 22nd, 1797, two large frigates, a corvette and a lugger, landed a banditti of 1500 ragamuffins and desperadoes, at Pencader, in Pembrokeshire. Their reception was the reverse of a fraternal hug. Their disembarkation caused a momentary dismay; which soon vanished and Welsh prowess prevailed. Henry the II. of England's assurance to Emanuel, Emperor of Constantinople, was in a great degree confirmed at this perilous juncture: viz, that the Ancient Britons, in defence of their country, would dare engage with the bare fist, a host armed at all points. Every weapon, offensive and defensive, was grasped on, and raised with vengeance against the invaders. The military force stationed in the neighbouring towns were soon mustered, and the chief command given to the Right Hon. Lord Cawdor. Fortunately for the French, the ardour of the populace was restrained, and kept within proper bounds by the officers commanding the respective corps, otherwise, few of the great nation would have reached the French shore, to relate the carnage they escaped at Fishguard; so great was the impetuosity animating every breast. Finding the Welsh not at all disposed to join their standard, their valorous Commander, Tate, sent two officers to the British Commander with proposals for a negotiation.

After quoting the letters that passed between Tate and Cawdor, the author concludes the book as follows:—

May Britain appreciate her own prosperity, and learn wisdom from the fall of other nations! Let civil and religious liberty be her boast; universal justice her pride! And may the Principality of Wales, a district of much turbulence and discord heretofore, now incorporated with England under one august monarch, rapturously say—

Jam cuncti Gens una sumus
Et simus in ævum.

X.X.X.

QUERIES.

GWEN O'R DDOL.—The promoters of a Local Eisteddfod have invited contributors to send in some papers on "Gwen o'r Ddol"; but, following the lead of the managers of the London Eisteddfod, who name "Merch y Llyn," as a subject for competition, they give no hint of how information can be obtained about Gwenno. I believe that a Gwen o'r Ddol is mentioned, in some old writings, as connected with Beddgelert; but so there is a traditional story told of a Denbighshire

character of the same name, and I avail myself of the opportunity to suggest that when subjects of this nature are mentioned for competition, some *precis* should be given of the sources out of which information can be obtained, by way of guide to competitors. "Merch y Llyn" in like manner is identified by some with Myfanwy of Llyn Tegid; by others as connected with Llyn y Fan Fach. Can any of your correspondents refer to written or printed authorities, where information can be obtained of either the one or the other, and particularly about Gwennno. DYFRDWWY AFALCH.

REPLIES.

THE SQUARE ROD (Apr. 6, 27, 1887.)—In thanking your correspondents who have been good enough to answer my queries as to the area within which this measure of surface is known, I may be permitted to state precisely what has now been ascertained. I have shown in my *History of Ancient Tenures*, etc., that throughout a great part of Flintshire the "cyfar" of 2,560 square yards, containing 40 "square roods" (each 64 yards square), is still used. I have also shown that throughout the lordship of Bromfield and Yale a customary acre, equal to four Flintshire cyfars, and containing 160 "square roods," was formerly used. Finally, I have shown that throughout Cheshire and South Lancashire this acre of 10,240 square yards and this square rood of 64 square yards are still in common use, the square rood being there formerly called a "fall of land." I cannot, however, trace either the cyfar of 2,560 square yards, or the acre ("erw") of 10,240, in any other part of Denbighshire than the lordship above-named, or in any of the adjoining Welsh counties. But it now appears that the "square rood," which was an integral part of both, is still in common use throughout Eastern Merionethshire, Eastern Montgomeryshire, the whole of Radnorshire, the whole of Shropshire, a part of Herefordshire (neighbourhood of Leominster), and a part of Staffordshire (neighbourhood of Newport.) Now it is important to note that the district of the square rood above-indicated was nearly all once included within the Welsh kingdom of Powys. To make the study complete, I should like to know whether the square rood is still used in Western Merionethshire, Western Montgomeryshire, and the Vale of Clwyd, and what are the limits of the district within which it is known in Herefordshire. ALFRED N. PALMER.

Wrexham.

CURRENT NOTES.

The nightingale has this year been heard at Llechryd and also near Coedmore, Cardiganshire.

The Government have promised that in future Welsh speaking Inspectors of Mines shall be appointed to Welsh districts. Mr F. A. Gray, a Welshman, assistant Inspector of Mines for Lancashire, is the first inspector under the new arrangement, and to him the South Wales district has been assigned.

The biggest blast ever known to have taken place in the Principality was successfully made on Saturday at the Dinorwic slate quarries, Llanberis. About two tons of gelatine was used, and the mass of rock brought down is estimated at 100,000 tons. A large number of spectators watched the operation from the surrounding heights.

The new chancel of Bayston Hill Church, which has lately been erected by the Vicar, in memory of his wife, was dedicated on Thursday. The floor has been laid with encaustic tiles, and in the centre there is a white marble slab, bearing the following inscription:—"To the glory of God and in loving and lasting memory of Rhoda Jane Kittermaster, wife of the Rev. F. W. Kittermaster, vicar of this parish."

Great masses of rich silver lead ore have, it is reported, been discovered by a company composed of Glasgow merchants, near the large peat bog of Gorsfochno, Cardiganshire. An old tradition stated that rich lead ore existed at the bottom of a certain shaft, close to the mining village of Taliesin, and that a huge tidal wave swept over the bog, drowning the miners. The company referred to secured the set, put on a gang of men, unwatereed the shaft, and at the bottom found an immense lode, of great width, full of silver lead. Here the company's trouble began, for the shaft collapsed. They sank another alongside the first shaft, and on Wednesday cut into the lode, and on Thursday lead was being brought to the surface in blocks as large as coals.

The consideration of a bequest of £10,000 to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution came before Mr Justice Chitty last week. Mr H. T. Richardson, of Pwllheli, who died in 1879, gave to the executors of his will £10,000 upon trust, to pay the same to the trustees of the Lifeboat Institution, on condition that the institution should build two tubular lifeboats similar to the one formerly stationed at New Brighton, and maintain the same at Deal and Pwllheli, the two boats to be named after the testator's father and mother; but if the institution should refuse to do so, the money was to be equally divided between the Female Refuge and the Reformatory and the Royal Hospital for Incurables. Mr Justice Chitty held that the Royal National Lifeboat Institution was entitled to have the £10,000 transferred to them, and that the condition was in the nature of a trust.

GLEBE LANDS IN SHROPSHIRE.—From a return showing the area of glebe lands in Shropshire, the following are abstracted:—Pontesbury 102a., rental £192; Rushbury, 71a., rental £88; Church Stretton, 65a., rental £145; Worthen, 107a., rental £224; Welshampton, 68a., rental £104; Prees, 54a., rental £134; Tilstock, 141a., rental £165; Whitchurch, 31a., rental £94; and Whixall, 68a., rental £97.

PRESENTATION TO COLONEL CORBETT.—At the Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, on Monday afternoon, Col. Corbett was presented with a life-sized portrait of himself by the officers and non-commissioned officers past and present of the 3rd Battalion King's Shropshire Light Infantry, originally known as the Shropshire Militia, which the gallant colonel commanded for a period extending over 20 years, retiring in 1884. Col. Sir Thomas Meyrick, Bart., made the presentation in the presence of a numerous company, and in returning thanks Col. Corbett said that few things gladdened the heart of an old man more than to look back upon the days he had passed among friends and comrades, and to feel that he finished his days followed by their kindness and esteem. Captain Edward Corbett also returned thanks.

OSWESTRY AND WELSHPOOL NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.—The first meeting of this Club for 1887, was held on Wednesday, May 18. The party met at Rednal Station, and proceeded through Fairy Land and Twyford to the Nursery, the residence of Mr J. Dovaston, where they had been very kindly invited to lunch, after which Mr Dovaston showed them his garden, which contains several

fine and unusual trees, a cork tree, a splendid hemlock spruce, a magnificent spreading yew, a cedar, whose girth is 13 feet round the bole, also some curious and rare plants naturalized, fritillaries, toothwort, the yellow figwort, &c. The party next visited the church, and the moated castle mound at West Felton, and St. Winifred's Well at Woolston, whence they made their way to Llanymynech, and returned to Oswestry by the 8 train, after having spent a very pleasant day. There were present, Mr and the Misses Dovaston, the Rev. R. K. and Miss Haslehurst, Rev. H. and Mrs Moody, Revs. K. B. Faulkner, J. Griffiths, C. H. Davies, J. Morris, O. M. Feilden, and Messrs. Jebb and Page. The day was fine, and very pleasant for a walk.

THE WILL OF MRS PEMBERTON HEYWOOD.—The will, with three codicils, of the late Mrs Anna Maria Heywood, widow of Mr John Pemberton Heywood of Cloverley Hall, Whitchurch, Norris Green, West Derby, Liverpool, and Hyde Park, London, has been proved in the Liverpool Probate Court by the executors, Mr Robertson Gladstone and Mr Arthur Pemberton Heywood-Lonsdale. The personal estate was sworn at, gross £651,237 18s 5d, net £648,713 6s 1d. The property is largely divided among her numerous immediate relatives. Many of her old servants are remembered by handsome gifts. The bequests to charities are as follows:—Royal Infirmary, £1,000; Northern Hospital, £1,000; School for the Deaf and Dumb, £1,000; the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Liverpool Branch), £1,000; the Liverpool Asylum for the Blind, £500; the National Hospital for the Paralyzed in London, £500; St. John's Hospital for Skin Diseases in Leicester-square, London, £500; the West Derby National Schools, £100; the West Derby Nursing Institution, £100; and the West Derby Dispensary, £100. On the 28th of November, 1864, the foundation stone of the new wing of the Northern Hospital was laid, the building of which Mr Heywood bore the entire cost. Mrs Heywood has bequeathed the institution a sum of £1,000.

THE TREFONEN SCHOOLROOM AND CHURCH ORGAN.—On Saturday there was put up, over the mantel piece in the schoolroom, a handsome brass plate, about two feet square, with this inscription:—

This Schoolroom was built and presented to the Parish of Trefonen, by G. J. Dumville Lees, Esq., Woodhill, October, 1885. T. REDFERN, Rector. J. CLARKE, T. H. STOKES, P. O. WILLIAMS, N. HUGHES, E. WHITFIELD, H. WYNNE JONES, Managers.

On the same day a brass plate was attached to the organ in Church, with this inscription:—

Presented by G. J. Dumville Lees, Esq., Woodhill, October 19th, 1880. S. REED, Rector. T. H. STOKES, JOHN JONES, Churchwardens.

The cost of putting up the tablets was defrayed by the voluntary contributions of the parishioners, for whom Mr P. O. Williams, The Vron, acted as secretary and treasurer.

THE LATE MR. HUGH PUGH, OF CARNARVON.—Mr Hugh Pugh died shortly after midnight on Sunday, May 15, at Llys Meirion, his residence near Carnarvon, after a long illness. The deceased gentleman, who had long intimately and actively identified himself with the public, municipal, and political life of Carnarvonshire, was born at Dolgelley in the year 1814. He began his business career in his native town in connection with the North and South Wales Bank, and about half a century ago he removed to Pwllheli, where, in a few years' time, he founded the Carnarvonshire District Bank, with which his name was chiefly

associated. He married in 1866 the eldest surviving daughter of the late Sir Hugh Owen, for many years permanent secretary of the Local Government Board, and leaves three sons and four daughters. The funeral took place on Friday, in the burial ground attached to Llanbellig, the parish church of Carnarvon. Among the mourners were his three sons, Mr Meirion Pugh, Mr Wynn Pugh, and Mr Vernon Pugh, and Mr Hugh Owen (permanent secretary to the Local Government Board), brother-in-law.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

In the county of Carmarthen £361 12s. 6d. has been collected for the Women's Jubilee Fund from 26,166 subscribers.

The High Sheriff of Denbigh (Mr Pochin) has forwarded a cheque for £1,000 to the Imperial Institute Fund. The Marquis of Bute has contributed £500 to the Fund.

Mr Pryce Jones of Newtown has intimated to the Rev. Evan Jones, vicar of Llanllwchaearn, that he will contribute £1,000, as a Jubilee gift, towards the erection of a new church in that parish.

A meeting of the promoters of the Moel Famman Tower restoration scheme in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, was held at Chester last week. The Secretary reported that the subscriptions received amounted to £800. It was proposed and seconded that this being the case the scheme should be abandoned. An amendment, to the effect that another appeal should be made to the public, and that the architect should be asked to draw a plan the cost of carrying out which would not exceed £1,000, was proposed and carried.

WREXHAM.

A very handsome font has been presented to St. James's Church by Mr Wm. Overton, in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee. The font is hexagonal in shape, and round the top has a carved panel in each face, which contain the name of the church "St. James." The lower part tapers gracefully to a cluster of pillars which rest on a neat base. Round this is carved the words "God save Queen Victoria, Jubilee year, 1887, W. Overton, donor." The font is carved in Penygelli stone, and was worked and supplied by Messrs. Davies and Son, stonemasons, Regent-street.

BUTTINGTON.

It having been decided at a meeting of the parishioners to join Welshpool for the rejoicings, collectors were appointed by the Committee to canvass the parish for subscriptions. Part of the fund to be raised, it was agreed, was to be spent in supplying the school with water, and the remainder to be handed over to the Welshpool Committee. The following undertook the work of collecting subscriptions:—Mr Green, Mr E. Hughes, Mr Tudor, Mr E. Parry, and Mr J. Lloyd. The Committee met in the Schoolroom on Tuesday, May 17, to receive the books and subscriptions. The total amount collected was £16 5s. 6d. Every one was invited to contribute, but no one was pressed to give, as it was intended that it should be a voluntary offering. It is a great benefit to the school children to have a supply of water for drinking, the want of which had been much felt, many of them coming from a distance, and bringing their dinners with them, they had previously to procure water where they could, and would sometimes drink water that was unfit for use. The water is now brought by a pipe to the school lobby, where there is a tap, and a basin is fixed underneath for the children to wash their hands. Over the tap a block of stone is

placed, with the following inscription :—" Jubilee Offering from the Parish, 1887." The work has been carried out by Mr Vaughan of Welshpool, at a cost of about £10, so that about £6 will be given to the Welshpool Committee.

ILLUMINATION OF SHROPSHIRE HILLS.

I shall be obliged if you will allow me to make public through your columns the fact that I have been enabled by the kindness of the landowners and localities interested to arrange for the illumination of the principal hills of this county in honour of her Majesty's Jubilee, by the lighting of bonfires at 10 p.m. on the evening of June 21st. The hills already arranged for are the Titterstone and Brown Clees, Aston Hill, Clun, Corndon, Caradoc, the Wrekin, the Stiperstones, the Breidden, and Grinshill. It is proposed that the bonfires in this county should be lighted simultaneously with a similar series which have been arranged for Worcestershire, viz., at the signal of a bouquet of rockets which is to be fired from the Malvern Hills punctually at 10 p.m. These rockets will be easily visible from many of our Shropshire Hills; where this is not the case the signal can at least be taken up second-hand, e.g., from the Wrekin or some other hill in direct communication with Malvern. Should it be in contemplation to illuminate for the occasion any other hills in this county besides those enumerated above, I should like to suggest to those interested that the general effect throughout the country would be very much enhanced if they would conform their arrangements to the general scheme of simultaneous lighting above mentioned, and I need scarcely add that I shall be very glad to supply information in any matter of detail so far as lies in my power.

OFFLEY WAKEMAN,

Cound Hall, Shrewsbury, Sheriff of Shropshire.

JUNE 1, 1887.

NOTES.

CO. OF BRECON.—MUSTER ROLLS.—Indenture dated 14 May, 43 Elizabeth, shewing the names of 15 men delivered by the Sheriff and Justices of the Peace for the above County unto Henry Aubrey, *gent.*, to be by him conveyed to the port of West Chester for service in Ireland (one membrane).

Indenture dated 17 October, 43 Elizabeth, showing the names and dwellings of 50 men raised in the above county and delivered to Harry Aubrey, conductor, to be by him conducted to Bristol for service in Ireland (one membrane).

Indenture, 44 Elizabeth, showing the names and dwelling places of 50 footmen pressed out of the above county, and delivered by John Gaines (1), High Sheriff of the County, to Edward Gaines, to be by him conducted to Bristol, and committed to the care of authorized persons for Her Majesty's Service (one membrane in good condition). Z.

QUERIES.

A MONTGOMERYSHIRE SUPERSTITION.—Engaging a domestic recently, who hailed from the neighbourhood of Mechdre, it was proposed that she should come to her place on the following Saturday. To this proposal, her mother, who was present, strongly objected;

Games.

asserting that "if she went there would be no luck with her." Friday was therefore substituted. I have heard a girl from Garthbeibio raise a similar objection. Does this superstition extend to other counties?

H. J.

REPLIES.

LUNGEOUS (May 11, 1887).—Miss Jackson gives (*Shropshire Word-Book*, 1879, page 265), "*Lungeous*, malicious, spiteful, cruel." Hartshorne gives (*Salopia Antiqua*, 1841, page 495), "*Lungeous*, cruel, vindictive, possessing a disposition which delights in mischief, or the infliction of bodily injury." None of these explanations seems to me to express the sense in which I have heard this word used for many years, not only here, but in the west of Shropshire. To be *lungeous* is to be something between decidedly cruel, as the glossarists say, and rudely careless, as "W.O." says; and I can best describe it as being violent. Boys are often unduly rough in their play, and cause pain recklessly, but they are *lungeous*, and neither "spiteful" nor "vindictive." So too, a man may be provoked to strike a *lungeous* blow, without being "malicious." R.E.D.

Shrewsbury.

Your correspondent "W.O." gives the word "lungeous" as a once not uncommon one in Shropshire. As far as the schoolboys of Oswestry are concerned, the word is still a common one, particularly in reference to the game of football. It might even be applied to the game of hockey. As to the definition, it undoubtedly means "harum scarum," or one who does not care what he does, who shows a spirit of bravado, and is to a certain degree violent and incapable of self-restraint. "Lungerous," no doubt, is the same word, but the difference in the spelling and pronunciation may be easily accounted for by careless usage. J.W.W.

Oswestry.

PARK (Oct. 20, 1886).—I met at Somerset House with an old will of one of the Herberts of Park; I think the date was about 1570. In this will he, in mentioning the manner, and from what sources his daughters' fortune should be provided, refers to that portion of Park *within the palings*. There is, therefore, no doubt that at that time Park was enclosed by palings, but whether it was coterminous with the present boundaries of the farm I cannot say. PEARMAIN.

FOLK LORE.—HOW TO FIND OUT THE LOVER WHO LOVES THE BEST (Jan. 19, 1887).—A slightly different version of the apple-pip charm from that mentioned by "E.O." obtains in the eastern counties. In order to ascertain whether or not her presumed lovers really care for her, the Suffolk maiden takes the pip of an apple, and naming one of her followers, places it in the fire. If in bursting from the heat the pip makes a noise, it is regarded as a proof of love; but if it is consumed without cracking, it is impossible to dissuade her that the person that pip represents has no real regard for her. This custom, together with that of divining by means of nuts in the same way as with apple-pips, is generally observed at Hallowe'en. Indeed, in the North, the Eve of All Hallows is better known by

the name of "Nutchack Night." Gay describes the ceremony of divination thus:—

Two hazel nuts I threw into the flame,
And to each nut I gave a sweetheart's name;
This with the loudest bounce me sore amazed,
That in a flame of brightest colour blazed;
As blazed the nut so may thy passion grow,
For 'twas thy nut that did so brightly glow!

And Burns in his poem of *Hallowe'en* says:—

The auld guid-wife's well-hoordit nits
Are round and round divided,
And mony lads' and lasses' fates
Are there that night decided:
Some kindle, couthie, side by side,
And burn thegither trimly;
Some start awa' wi' saucy pride,
And jump out-owre the chimly
Fu' high that night.
Jean slips in twa wi' tentie e'e;
Wha' twas she wadna tell;
But this is Jock, and this is me,
She says in to herself:
He bleezed owre her, and she owre him,
As they wad never mair part;
Till, fuff! he started up the lum,
And Jean had e'en a sair heart,
To see't that night.

Brand in his *Popular Antiquities* says:—

It is a custom in Ireland, when the young women would know if their lovers are faithful, to put three nuts upon the bars of the grate, naming the nuts after the lovers. If a nut cracks or jumps, the lover will prove unfaithful; if it begins to blaze or burn, he has a regard for the person making the trial. If the nuts named after the girl and her lover burn together, they will be married.

I cannot speak as to Shropshire or to Wales, but I know that in my native county, Cheshire, divination by nuts at Hallowe'en was no unusual occurrence years ago.

Cardiff.

G. H. B.

CURRENT NOTES.

The *Builder* of May 28 gives some interesting "Sketches in Shropshire," by Mr Henry D. Walton, including the entrance porch at Park Hall, near Oswestry.

The Queen has been pleased to purchase for the Royal Library, at Windsor, a copy of a metrical translation of the "Alcestis" of Euripides by Mr Rees of the *Chronicle* Office, Chester.

A few days ago at Shrewsbury, Sergeant-Major Hammond of the Shropshire Militia buried a grandchild, while his own grandfather is surviving. He is nearly 100 years old, and is in excellent health and spirits.

On Wednesday the remains of Ellen Davies, who died a few days ago at Liverpool, were interred at St. Tudno's Churchyard, upon the Great Ormeshead. The deceased, who had reached the great age of 102, was born at Llandudno.

A handsome stone cross, bearing the inscription "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord for they rest from their labours," has been erected in Alveley New Cemetery by Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart. The height of the cross is eleven feet.

The fifth annual exhibition of the works of the honorary members, members, and associates of the Royal Cambrian Academy of Art, which has now found a permanent home

at Plas Mawr, Conway, was opened on Monday. Her Majesty has sent for exhibition from the Windsor Castle Gallery one of the earliest works of Sir Frederic Leighton, who heads the list of honorary members of the Royal Cambrian Academy of Art, his large gallery picture illustrating "The Procession of Cimabue's Madonna," occupying the place of honour in what is known as the banqueting room of the ancestral mansion of the Mostyn family. In the same room is to be exhibited the album of sketches by members of the Academy, which, by command, is to be presented to the Queen on June 22 by Mr Clarence Whaite, the president, and Mr W. Lawrence Banks, the honorary secretary and treasurer.

PIED FLYCATCHER IN MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—On the 3rd May I saw a pair of pied flycatchers (*Muscicapa atricapilla*) in an orchard in the north of this county, near the small village of Berriew. Has not this little bird become a very rare visitor here? I saw one in the same place last summer.—J., *Manafon, Montgomeryshire, in the Field.*

THE LIVERPOOL NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.—This club held its second field meeting at Brynypys and Erbistock on Thursday. The party arrived by the 10 20 train at Wrexham, where waggonettes were in waiting to convey the party by way of Marchwiell to Brynypys, where, from the new cemetery, situated on Dee Bank, a charming and picturesque view of the Dee Valley to Erbistock was obtained. The waggonettes proceeded to Overton (yn auncient tyme "Orton Madoc"), and here the party alighted for an inspection of the churchyard (one of the seven wonders of Wales), famous for the ring of giant yews, twenty-one in number, that encircle the church. From Overton the party wandered on foot to Erbistock Ferry, a distance of less than two miles, by the path which leads by the Dee side through meadows and plantations, where ample time was afforded for natural history work. The party having crossed the ferry and visited the old church at Erbistock, the waggonettes conveyed the party from Erbistock at 3 30 p.m., by way of Overton Bridge and Eytton, to the Wynnstay Arms Hotel, at Wrexham, where refreshments were provided. After this the prizes for botanical research were awarded, and an opportunity was afforded of inspecting the town and church. The weather was very favourable.

The Late Rev. David Jones, M.A.,
formerly of Llanarmon D.C.

Many of our readers in the Vale of Ceiriog and elsewhere will learn with regret of the death of the Rev David Jones, M.A., formerly for thirty years Rector of Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog, where he was held in the greatest esteem by all his parishioners, the great majority of whom were Nonconformists. Mr Jones, who a few years ago resigned the living of Llanarmon, and went to reside at Grove Mount, Davenham, Cheshire, died on Monday, May 16, at Southport, aged 77.

A correspondent writes:—The death of the late rector of Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog, in his seventy-seventh year, must have called many dear memories to the minds of his late parishioners and his old friends in the neighbourhood, where he spent thirty years and was much beloved and respected. Mr Jones was a native of Darowen, Montgomeryshire. He was a graduate of Jesus College, Oxford, where he took his degree of B.A. in 1839, and proceeded to his M.A. in 1842. He was ordained in 1839 to the curacy of Nannerch, near Denbigh, where he remained two years. His next curacy

was that of Meifod. Here Mr Jones worked for five years, and during the whole time his services were much appreciated. He was appointed rector of Llanarmon in the year 1848, by Dr. Vowler Short, Bishop of St. Asaph. He continued rector of Llanarmon for thirty years, where he was most devoted in promoting the interests of the Church and the good of his parishioners. During the whole time Mr Jones kept open the National School in the parish almost entirely at his own expense, giving a considerable portion of his own income to make up the salary of the schoolmaster and defray current expenses. With the help of a few private friends Mr Jones presented the church with a very valuable harmonium. A Clothing Club also was conducted by Mrs Jones, and supported at her own expense. The poor of Llanarmon will long remember Mr Jones and all the members of his family. During the last few years of his incumbency at Llanarmon, Mr Jones's health was gradually declining, and in the early part of 1878 he very reluctantly was persuaded to resign his living, in order to live in a less exposed position and warmer climate. Since that time he resided at Grove Mount, Davenham. After removing to Davenham, Mr Jones's health considerably improved. He was able to take charge of Rudheath Mission Church for six months, and even until very recently he did duty occasionally for a sick neighbour, or to enable a friend to take a holiday. Of late he was in the habit of frequently visiting Southport for the sake of his health. He went there at the beginning of May, where he took a severe cold, which developed into other serious complaints, and proved fatal on the 16th of the same month, within ten days of leaving home. The funeral, which took place on the 19th, at Southport Cemetery, was quite a private one, the members of the family only being present. The officiating minister was an old friend of the departed, the Rev Canon Cross, who is in his eightieth year.

JUNE 8, 1887.

NOTES.

EPITAPH IN MELIDEN CHURCHYARD.—The following is the epitaph of J. Owens, printed in Roman letters :—

Underneath Here lieth the
body of John Owens, Engineer,
who departed this life
12th of May, 1794,
Aged 50.

Life is a jest,
And all things show it,
I thought so once,
But now I know it.

The lines, of course, were written by Gay, for, as he states, "My own epitaph." It would be well if stonecutters would quote their authors. Many go away from Meliden Churchyard thinking the lines are the production of John Owens himself ! E.O.

QUERIES.

PLACE NAMES.—Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* inform me what gave rise to the following place names :—"Queen's bridge," near Overton; "Zion lane," near Ellesmere; "War hill," at Welshampton; and "Gospel field," at Bettisfield ?

CURIOUS.

REPLIES.

NICKNAMES.—**LLANMYNECH CUT TAILS.** (April 14, 1886.)—At this date "R.E.D." refers to a statement made by another correspondent in *Bye-Gones*, in December, 1873, that it used to be very common many years ago to say "Take care how you go through Llanymynech, or you will have your tail cut," and asks for information as to its origin. A friend of mine, of whom I asked the question, says he remembers his father saying that many years ago, when a large number of men were employed at the lime rocks, Llanymynech was noted for the ill-treatment which persons passing through the place or stopping at the public houses received at the hands of the rockmen, who, in the evenings, and especially on pay days, congregated in the village. In those days long tailed coats were in vogue, and if a stranger wearing such a garment happened to call for a jug of beer, and sat down among a number of the rockmen, he would probably be subjected to some indignity or other with the view of picking up a quarrel with him. One would, perhaps, make some disparaging remark as to his personal appearance, or, as was very often the case, some one would take hold of the stranger's jug of beer, drink some of it, and throw the remainder in his face or on the ground; and, if he demurred, his clothes would be torn, the first attempt being generally made upon the coat tails, and if the poor stranger was not of a fighting disposition, he would have to run for his life; and when seen by anyone on his way home, minus one or both his coat tails, he would be greeted with the sarcastic and galling remark—"Oh, you've bin through Llanymynech and got yer tail cut off, have yo'?" Sometimes, however, the rockmen caught a tartar, and got more than they bargained for in return for their insults. My friend, who related this to me, says that his uncle, with two or three friends, powerful men, once turned into a public-house there and called for their jug of beer; and no sooner had his uncle's jug been put on the table than one of the rockmen took hold of it, drinking some of the beer, and throwing the rest off. But the owner promptly retaliated by striking the aggressor down, and in a stand up fight which followed the rockman got off by far second best. So general had the illusage of strangers become that it became a proverb, when anyone had his clothes torn, to say—"Oh, you've been through Llanymynech, I see." BONWM.

GEORGE III.'s JUBILEE.—*Continued* (Mar. 30, May 11, 18, 1887).

CARNARVONSHIRE.

BANGOR.—A very handsome subscription was entered into on the day previous, for furnishing the poor with coals and other necessaries during the ensuing winter. In the morning, the members of the Friendly Society Club walked in procession to the Cathedral, preceded by the Dean, Archdeacon, and resident Clergy, and followed by a company of Volunteers, commanded by Capt. Roberts. After divine service, the Volunteers were formed upon the mountain which overlooks the town, which, together with the fineness of the day, had a most pleasing effect; several excellent volleys were fired, which were answered by the cannon from Port Penrhyn. In the afternoon a large party assembled at the Penrhyn Arms to dinner, the Dean in the chair. After his Majesty's health had been

drunk, with three times three, the Dean, in a most energetic and appropriate address, submitted to the company a proposal for establishing a Dispensary for this city and neighbourhood, an establishment which he justly observed "would hand down the commemoration of that day to the latest posterity." A liberal subscription was immediately entered into, both for forming a present fund, and by annual subscription. In the evening the mountains in various directions presented a most pleasing spectacle, bon-fires being displayed from their summits in every quarter.

CONWAY.—The day was celebrated with much loyalty. At one o'clock the cannon were fired from the Quay, and in the evening the fine ruins of the Castle were brilliantly illuminated, and was one of the grandest spectacles it is possible to conceive. The opposite mountains blazed with innumerable bon-fires, and frequent discharges of cannon announced the attachment of the ancient Britons to their King. Ale was distributed to the populace, and a subscription for the poor was very cheerfully entered into that they might also rejoice, and join their prayers and good wishes to those of their more opulent neighbours.

FLINTSHIRE.

ST. ASAPH.—That the poor might partake of the general festivity on the 25th, Fleetwood Williams, Esq., brother to Sir J. Williams, Bart., of Bodolwyddan, sent twenty guineas, for a barrel of ale, to drink the King's health, and the rest of the money to be distributed among the poor families there, it being his native place. Mr Williams was amongst the most active in celebrating the day in Liverpool, his name standing foremost in all the public subscriptions, which have been noticed before.

CURRENT NOTES.

A fine mottled seal has been caught in the river Dee, between Flint Castle and Neston, by fishermen.

A sturgeon, measuring 7 feet 6 inches in length, and weighing over one cwt. and a half, has been caught by a Dee fisherman.

A beautiful stained glass window has just been placed in the east end of St. Mary's Church, Bettws-y-Coed, by Lady Alice Ewing, of Coed Derwen, to the memory of her uncle, the late Lord Penrhyn. There are altogether five large lights and two small circular ones.

Mr Abram Jones-Williams, brother of the late Mr D. Williams, M.P., of Castell Deudraeth, died on May 30, at Graigle, Llandudno. Mr Jones-Williams, who was a magistrate for Merionthshire and Carnarvonshire, and spent many years in Oporto, married the only daughter of the late Lieut.-General Sir Love Jones Parry, K.H., of Madryn.

A finely carved white marble medallion of Dr. Erasmus Darwin has been placed in the south choir aisle of Lichfield Cathedral, near Archdeacon Hodson's monument. A brass tablet beneath bears the following inscription:—"Erasmus Darwin, M.D., F.R.S., physician, philosopher, and poet, author of 'Zoonomia,' 'Botanic Garden' and other works, a successful observer of nature, vivid in imagination, indefatigable in research, original and far-sighted in his views. His speculations were mainly directed to problems which were afterwards more successfully solved by his grandson, Charles Darwin, an inheritor of many of his characteristics. He was born A.D. 1731. He resided in the city of Lichfield from A.D. 1756 to A.D. 1781. He died in 1802, and was buried at Breadsall, Derbyshire. His first wife, Mary, daughter of Charles Howard, lies buried in the Close."

The *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News* for the last week has on its front page an excellent portrait after a photograph by Walery, of Miss Eleanor Rees, one of our leading Welsh singers in London. In the *Graphic*, Mr Sydney P. Hall has an illustration of the Prince and Princess of Wales thanking the artists at the recent State concert, in which Mr John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwallia) very prominently figures. Mr Thomas, we are informed, has composed a Welsh chorus in honour of her Majesty's Jubilee. In the June number of "Harper's Magazine," Mr W. H. Rideing has an article on "The Route of the Wild Irishman," in which appears some characteristic illustrations of Penmaenmawr, Conway Castle, the South Stack Light, and notably of "Market day on the North Welsh Coast," done by Henry Sandham in the well-known American manner.

Mr Dan Isaac Davies, B.Sc., one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, who died on Saturday, May 28, at Cardiff, began life as a pupil teacher at the Llandovery (Carmarthenshire) British Schools, where he served an apprenticeship of five years. He afterwards took charge of the Park British Schools at Aberdare, where he remained for nine years, and during that time trained a number of capable young men, who have since made their mark in and beyond Wales. In 1869, he became the successor of Dr. Evan Davies, as head master of the Normal College, Swansea, and two years afterwards was offered the post of assistant inspector of schools under Mr Joseph Boustead—a name endeared to the pioneers of Welsh elementary education. After serving for some years in this capacity in England he was promoted to be a sub-inspector, being one of the first elementary teachers chosen for this distinction. In 1882 he was promoted to the Merthyr district. He took an active interest in the Cardiff Cymmrodorion Society, the Cambrian Society for South Wales and Monmouthshire, the Liverpool Welsh National Society, the Society for Utilising the Welsh Language, the Welsh Sunday School Union, and similar organizations.

CHESTER RACECOURSE.—If we are to trust to tradition, Chester is the most ancient racecourse in the kingdom. It is said that the Twentieth Legion in the days of the Roman occupation of Britain, some sixteen and more centuries ago, instituted racing on the Rhodee; but it can with certainty be traced back to 1511. The Rhodee is, however, partly encircled by walls, which are believed by some antiquaries to be Roman, the most perfect of their kind in England, and is said to derive its name from Rood-eye, the island of the cross, which formerly stood there. In an old book written by a prebendary of the cathedral, who died in 1595, we are told of "a silver bell which was ordained to be the reward of that horse which with speedy running should runne before all others." There is an order of the Corporation of Chester, dated in the third year of Henry VIII., directing that this bell, of the annual value of three shillings and fourpence, should be run for yearly, and only on the Rhodee. This is the earliest record of annual horse-racing in Britain.

THE LATE MR JOHN JONES, SURGEON.—We regret to record the death of Mr John Jones, surgeon, of Welshpool, which took place on Friday last at Llangollen, at the age of sixty-six. Deceased, who was brother of Dr William Jones of Ruabon, had enjoyed an extensive practice at Welshpool for the last twenty-four years, and previous to that for twelve years at Llangollen. About the close of last year he was laid prostrate with acute bronchitis, and was compelled to relinquish his practice and take his residence with his brother, Dr. William Jones,

Ruabon. Subsequently he removed to Llangollen, hoping that the change of air would bring about his recovery. He gradually, however, became worse, and expired, as before stated, on Friday. His remains were interred in Ruabon Cemetery on Tuesday, amid general manifestations of sorrow and respect.

UNVEILING OF THE YARDLEY JUBILEE MEMORIAL.—On Friday, the ceremony of presenting and unveiling the stained glass window in St. Chad's Church, Shrewsbury, erected by subscription to commemorate the jubilee of the Rev. John Yardley, vicar of the parish, took place in the presence of a large company of ladies and gentlemen. Mr. Humphrey Sandford presided, and, in opening the proceedings, apologised for the absence of Colonel Wingfield, chairman of the committee. Mr. Sandford then referred to the work of the Rev. J. Yardley in the parish, especially with regard to his connection with the Dissenters. Other speakers followed, and after the Rev. J. Yardley had returned thanks to his parishioners for their kindness to him, the window was unveiled. The figures on the window are clear and distinct. Above is the crest of the Yardley family, and below is inscribed the collect for St. John's Day, and at the foot is the inscription—"Given by parishioners and friends to the Rev. John Yardley, M.A., to record the completion, Oct. 8, 1886, of the 50th year of his ministrations as vicar of this parish." The subject of the illustration is taken from St. Matthew iv., v. 22 and 23.

THE LATE MRS. MOORE OF HORDLEY.—During the last week a stained glass window, to the memory of the late Mrs. Moore, has been placed in the east end of Hordley Church by the relations of the deceased lady, helped by a few kind friends, and the parishioners. Amongst other designs, the Nativity of our Lord, the Presentation in the Temple, and the Annunciation, are represented. The whole work, which gives great satisfaction, was designed and executed by Messrs. Powell & Son of Whitefriars, at a cost of £140. Near the window a memorial brass has been fixed, with this inscription: "To the glory of God, and in loving memory of Frances Marianne, wife of John Walter Moore, for many years Rector of this Parish, who died August 1, 1886, aged 66, this window was erected 1887. Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." On Trinity Sunday, the sermon after the morning service was preached by the Rev. J. Peake, vicar of Ellesmere, from the text, "The memory of the just is blessed." Prov. x., 7.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to accept a copy of the "Jubilee Souvenir," which has been circulated by Mr. Fryce Jones. The work recalls pictorially the leading events of her Majesty's life.

Mrs. Cornwallis West has, with the assistance of other lady canvassers, collected the sum of £106 1s. 5d. from 4,700 women and girls residing in the county of Denbigh. This sum does not include the contributions obtained by the Mayoresses of Denbigh and Wrexham.

On Wednesday afternoon, May 25, a Jubilee Loan and Keepsake Exhibition, in connection with the Girls' Friendly Society, was opened in the Town Hall, Newport, Salop, by Colonel Kenyon-Slaney, M.P., in behalf of Lady Mabel Kenyon-Slaney. There was a very large attendance. The National Anthem, with additional verses for the Jubilee by Dean Plumtre, was sung. The loans exceeded 500 in number, and included many articles of great interest and value.

OSWESTRY.

At the monthly meeting of the Oswestry Town Council, held on Monday, the Town Clerk presented the following draft of an address to the Queen:—

To Her Majesty the Queen.

We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Oswestry, in the County of Salop, desire most respectfully to

tender to your Majesty our loyal and dutiful congratulations on the attainment of your Majesty to the 50th year of a reign which will ever be memorable in the annals of English history for the advancement of the people under the fostering care of your Majesty in the sciences and arts and all that tends to make a nation truly great.

We would pray that your Majesty may long be preserved to receive the loyal and dutiful attachment of the people of this great Empire.

On the motion of Mr. Porter, seconded by Mr. R. Hughes, the draft was unanimously approved; and on the motion of Mr. Porter, seconded by Mr. England, it was ordered to be engrossed at a cost not exceeding three guineas.

JUBILEE BONFIRES IN MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

It may interest your readers to know that, with the co-operation of landowners and others, arrangements have been made for bonfires to be lighted upon the most prominent hills throughout the county of Montgomery on the night of June 21. The fires will be lighted simultaneously at ten p.m., and the following points, amongst others, will be illuminated, viz.:—Breidden, Moelgotha, Beacon Ring, Kerry Pole, Top of Powis Castle Park, Town Hill, Montgomery, Moel Pentryrh, Llandinam, Llabrynmair, Moel-y-Maen, Meifod.

C. WHITLEY OWEN,

Sheriff of Montgomeryshire.

Fronfraith, Abermule, R.S.O.,

Montgomeryshire.

THE MONTGOMERYSHIRE ADDRESS TO HER MAJESTY.

A meeting, to which the inhabitants of the county of Montgomery were invited, was held on Monday in the Town Hall at Welshpool, under the presidency of the High Sheriff, Mr. C. Whitley Owen, and the following address for presentation to the Queen was approved of:—

To Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

May it please your Majesty,—We, the inhabitants of the county of Montgomery, your Majesty's most dutiful subjects, in public meeting assembled, humbly approach your Majesty, and respectfully offer our most loyal and sincere congratulations to your Majesty upon the auspicious occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of your accession to the throne.

We most earnestly pray that Almighty God may extend to your Majesty many years of health, accompanied by every Divine blessing, to reign over the loyal and devoted subjects of your Majesty's vast dominions.

Signed, on behalf of the inhabitants of the said county, this 6th day of June, 1887,

C. WHITLEY OWEN, High Sheriff.

SHROPSHIRE COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS.

AN ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.

On Saturday afternoon, June 4, a Special Court of Quarter Sessions for the County of Salop was held in the Shirehall, at Shrewsbury, for the purpose of adopting an address of congratulation to be presented to her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of her Jubilee. There were present—The Chairman (A. Salway, Esq.), Lord Berwick, Sir Charles Rouse Boughton, Bart., Rev. Riou Benson, Hon. R. C. Herbert, Stanley Leighton, Esq., M.P., R. Jasper More, Esq., M.P., W. E. M. Hulton-Harrop, Esq., A. Sparrow, Esq., J. H. N. Walford, Esq., W. E. Garnett-Botfield, Esq., Major-General Jenkins, A. E. W. Darby, Esq., R. B. Benson, Esq., John Whitaker, Esq., T. Maddocks Esq., W. Moseley, Esq., G. E. Lloyd, Esq., and Highway Jones, Esq.

The CHAIRMAN, in introducing the business, said he had just received a telegram from the noble Earl, the Lord

Lieutenant of the County, saying that he was unable to attend the meeting, and asked him (the chairman) to explain his absence. His lordship had been laid up with illness for some time. It was his full intention to be present, in fact, the meeting was fixed for that day after a conference with Lord Bradford. It was rather a happy coincidence that the 4th of June was selected for the business they were about to transact, seeing that it was the birthday of the good old King George III. He need hardly say that the Court was summoned that day to approach the throne in the most loyal manner it possibly could, and that it was intended to propose an address to her Majesty on the occasion of the Jubilee of her accession to the throne, and to take no other business that day. He thought when the history of these times was written the historian would have to record a variety of addresses which would be presented from all classes in every portion of the world. There would be addresses from all sorts of bodies—bodies both learned and scientific. Bodies scientific as illustrating the wonderful growth of science during her Majesty's reign; bodies mercantile or commercial as testifying to the fact that the Queen rules over a vast and mighty empire. There would be addresses from bodies ancient and modern, and there would be addresses representative of most of the foreign Powers, testifying to the high esteem in which her Majesty is held in other countries. There would be addresses, none the less lacking in interest, from those English colonies which had, during the last 50 years, grown almost into a kingdom of their own. But amid all this variety of addresses none could be more loyal or warm than those presented by her Majesty's Ancient Courts of Quarter Sessions—courts which had been in existence for 500 years, and courts which had seen no less than 25 monarchs on the throne. (Cheers.) Loyalty was inherent in every true British subject, and was not loyalty present when, 50 years ago, our then youthful Sovereign, in the midst of her senators, took those oaths of allegiance which she had so nobly carried out? Men with historic names, such as Peel and Brougham and Lyndhurst and the great duke of a hundred victories, the Duke of Wellington, stood by her in the venerable old abbey of Westminster, as she took those coronation oaths she had so nobly fulfilled. Did not a loyal people watch with ever-increasing pride in their Sovereign, as they beheld her, sheltered by the loving care of her royal spouse, devote her whole life to the welfare of her people and the development of her kingdom? Did they not mourn with her when on that dark December day that loving care was taken from her side? Was not loyalty grown into almost affectionate veneration, as with every throb of the national life it has beheld the royal sympathy, not waiting for the tardy passage of pen or post, flash forth, like lightning from the summit of a lofty crag, along that telegraphic wire, which itself is co-eval with her Majesty's reign, those words of comfort which carry consolation to the lowliest cottage hearth as well as the proudest hall? And now, has not loyalty culminated, when from every clime come pouring England's sons, speaking England's tongue, and telling the people of England that with their Jubilee year has dawned the day when the Empress-Queen shall reign, in one mighty federation, over the fairest empire the world has ever known? (Applause.)

The CLERK OF THE PEACE (Mr E. C. Peele) then read the draft copy of the address, the members of the Court and officials standing meanwhile, and it was as follows:—

To Her Majesty the Queen.

May it please your Majesty,—We, the justices of the county of Salop, in Quarter Sessions assembled, desire to offer to your

Majesty our loyal and sincere congratulations on the approaching Jubilee of your Majesty's happy and beneficent reign. We feel that the wonderful advance of science and the development of all the national sources of industry in so marked a manner have been, under the blessing of Almighty God, much influenced by the lively interest taken in the national welfare by your Majesty and that illustrious Prince who shared for many years the burdens of your Throne. We pray that the Giver of all good gifts may continue to your Majesty and the Royal Family those blessings which have hitherto been so mercifully bestowed, and that you may be long spared to reign over us, and that your Empire may embrace not only your loyal subjects in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, but also include within its sheltering care those colonial dependencies of which your Majesty is the constitutional head.—Signed by order of the Court of Quarter Sessions, ALFRED SALWEY, Chairman, 4th June, 1887.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the address, and said he would now call upon the senior member of the county (Mr Stanley Leighton) to second it.

MR STANLEY LEIGHTON, M.P., said he had great pleasure in responding to the Chairman's request, and seconding the motion which he had proposed in such appropriate terms. It was well that that Court of Quarter Sessions, which, as the Chairman had so well described, was established in the reign of Edward III., and had carried on the criminal and civil business in this county from that time; whose jurisdiction extended over the whole area of the county; whose members came from every parish and from every quarter of the county, and who were appointed by the Crown—he thought it was well that such a Court so appointed and so constituted should summon a special session for the expressing to the Queen the loyalty of her Salopian subjects. In the changes and chances that were in store for them he trusted that the integrity, industry, and economical administration which had characterized the transaction of business in that Court in the past might be preserved and utilized in public service in the future. He thought he might use those words without offering to himself any indirect compliment, because they were all aware that since that Court had been under the Chairman's presidency he (Mr Leighton) had been able to give them very little active or personal service. If the senior knight of the shire fifty years ago had proposed a somewhat similar motion as the one he was seconding, that was to say a resolution of congratulation on her Majesty's accession, he believed he would have had the pleasure of being supported by no less than twelve representatives of constituencies in Shropshire. If they were all present that day he could only be supported by five representatives. But there were generally compensations to be found in this world if they knew where to look for them, and what Shropshire had lost in its representation in the House of Commons it had gained in representation in the House of Lords. During those 50 years eight gentlemen of Shropshire, or of Shropshire estate, had been added to the Lords, namely, Wenlock, Windsor, Boyne, Acton, Harlech, Trevor, Murray, and Rowton. It had been described in the address what improvements had marked the past 50 years. He would venture to say that the special characteristic of those improvements—national and local—were the comfort, the health, and education, which formerly were only within the grasp of the comparatively few classes, but had now been placed within the reach of all. There had been a diffusion of comfort, wealth, and of education. The houses of the middle classes and cottagers had shown a most marked improvement. The wages of the whole of the earning classes had been during that time increased to the amount of 50 per cent., and in some cases more. They also had elementary schools in every parish in the country, and the rapid development in some portions of her Majesty's dominions had been greater than in their

own county; but the increase and improvement here was positive, absolute, and most marked. Their loyalty was not less pure and sincere because it was self-interested and because it was founded upon the consciousness that it was identified with the long and prosperous reign of her Majesty. This county was the particular member of a mighty empire; it was part owner and sharer of the magnificence of the whole, and, he believed, while expressing their respectful duty to the sovereign, they also at that time by that address asserted their determination, as far as lay with them, to preserve the integrity of that nation of which her Majesty was the gracious monarch, and to preserve the unity of that nation of which she was the fair representative. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN—I propose that the address as read be engrossed on vellum, signed by the Chairman of the Court, and presented to the Queen.

This was agreed to, and the Court rose.

The Late Mr. J. Roland Phillips.

We regret to announce the death of a prominent London Welshman. Mr J. Roland Phillips, Stipendiary Magistrate of the West Ham Police District, after suffering for a considerable time from a wasting disease, died at his residence in South Hampstead on Friday morning. Mr Phillips was a native of Cilgerran, South Wales. He commenced his career in a solicitor's office at Cardigan. Whilst there he successfully competed at several local Eisteddfodau. His "History of Cilgerran," contributed to the Cardigan Eisteddfod of 1866, was greatly praised by the two adjudicators, Dewi o Ddyfed and Llallawg. It was published in 1867, but has now become somewhat scarce. He was also the author of a prize essay on the History and Town of Cardigan. Coming to London he studied for the Bar, and was eventually admitted. He had a wide acquaintance with the law in all its branches, and for years he edited the legal column of one of the public journals. The Duke of Norfolk entrusted Mr Phillips with the collation and restoration of the muniments of the Howard family, a task which he satisfactorily accomplished. His knowledge of the Records of the Corporation and City Companies, &c., led to his being largely employed in assisting Mr Firth and others in getting up the case which led to Sir William Harcourt's Commission. It was this that indirectly led to his appointment as Stipendiary Magistrate of the new district of West Ham. As a magistrate he was extremely popular, and the feeling over his death in Stratford and the neighbourhood is intense. He will be long remembered in the literary world as the author of a standard work on "The Civil War in Wales and the Marches," first published in 1874. His knowledge of the Welsh MSS. at the Record Office and in the British Museum was probably unique. Not long ago he intimated that he had in contemplation the publication of a "History of Wales during the Tudor period," and also a "History of the Castles and Abbeys of South Wales," but probably these works have not gone beyond the initial stage. His last published work was a "Short History of the County of Glamorgan," of which only 150 copies were printed. He was to be an adjudicator at the forthcoming Eisteddfod, and at his funeral, which took place on Monday, the Executive Committee was represented by the chairman, Mr Stephen Evans, and the vice-chairmen, Dr Isambard Owen and Mr Marchant Williams. Mr Phillips, we regret to add, has left his children utterly destitute, and we understand that an appeal will shortly be made to the public for funds to maintain them, and to enable them to complete their education.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

THE LATE MR. JOHN CEIRIOG-HUGHES.

Mr Isaac Foulkes of Liverpool lately read a paper before the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion on "The Life and Works of the late John Ceiriog-Hughes." In the absence of Mr Lewis Morris, the Chairman of the Council, Mr Stephen Evans presided, and in a few touching words referred to the late bard and his inestimable services to Welsh poetical literature. Mr Foulkes is known by his writings as an enthusiastic Welsh litterateur. For strong idiomatic language he probably excels most writers in the vernacular, and as one who knew Ceiriog well, his paper was looked forward to with considerable interest. It is satisfactory to us to be able to say that the high expectations raised were not disappointed. For once in a way there was a strong touch of actuality about the national feeling of the members of the Cymmrodorion. It leads one to hope that an effort will be made to keep it still more and more alive and active. The force of Mr Foulkes's remarks is necessarily weakened by their transposition into prosaic English. We must therefore content ourselves with a short summary. John Ceiriog-Hughes was born on the 25th September, 1832 (the same day that Sir Walter Scott was buried), at a farmhouse known as Penybryn, Llanarmon-Dyffryn-Ceiriog. The bard refers affectionately to his father, a pious Welshman of the old-fashioned sort, in many of his poems. His mother was not an ordinary woman. She possessed a knowledge of simples and their medicinal qualities, which she used to good purpose amongst her neighbours. She died only some three years ago, and will be long remembered as the mother who gave occasion to that most pathetic of poems, "Ti wyddost beth ddywed fy nghalon." The valley of the Ceiriog runs in a serpentine course from the south-eastern corner of Denbighshire for ten miles or more to its end in the mountains of Berwyn. At one end thereof stands Chirk Castle, the old home of the Middletons. Higher up at Llansantffraid is the grave of Cynddelw, who, notwithstanding the fact that he could neither read nor write till he was fifteen years old, turned out one of the ablest critics in Wales since the days of Gwallter Mechain. A mile further on stands Pontymyrbion, where dwelt, two centuries ago, the excellent bard Huw Morys. His poetry undoubtedly had great influence in moulding the genius of Ceiriog, who, curiously enough, founded his ideal of happiness on the life led by Huw Morys, viz., that of a Welsh gentleman of the old style, who rode his own horses, enjoyed the scent of his own cattle, who knew the faces of all his flock and clad himself in their wool, who fished his own lakes and hunted on his own lands, kept and fostered the language, forms, and habits of his forefathers, without forgetting the bard, who was charitable to all, honouring the King and fearing God. Llanarmon, where Ceiriog was born, is at the far end of the narrow valley, surrounded by the Berwyn. Like many boys of his generation, Ceiriog suffered from his parents' lack of appreciation of the value of education. He attended for some time a small school at Nantyglog, but it cost him years of after-labour to attain the knowledge and culture which bore so rich a fruit in his poetical works. When 17 years old he left Llanarmon for Manchester, an occasion tenderly described in the stanzas—

Mae John yn myn'd i Loegr, a bore foru'r â,
Mae gwedd-d-fam y bachgen yn gwybod hyn'n dda;
Wrth bacio'r dillad gwladiaid, a'u plygu ar y bwrdd,
Y gyst ymddengys iddi fel arch yn myn'd i ffrwd.

Mae ef yn hel ei lyfrau i'r gyst sydd ar y llawr,
Yn llon gan feddwl gweled gwychedau'r frefydd mawr;
Nis gwel'êr d-igrn distaw ar rudd y wedd y drist,
Na'r Beibl bychan newydd a roddwyd yn y gyst.

At Manchester he was apprenticed to a firm of grocers, but early in his career he became a clerk in the office of the Manchester and Sheffield Railway. During his stay in Manchester he wrote some of his best works, now collected in the small volumes known as "Orian'r Hwyr," "Orian'r Bore," "Y Bardd a'r Cerddor," and "Cant o Ganeuon." In conjunction with Creuddynfab he wrote the mock satirical letters of "Syr Meurig Grynswth," which did away with many Eisteddfod abuses. He wrote to the Welsh newspapers, and contributed to the "Gwyddoniadur," as well as to "Trysorfa y Plant." For twenty years or more he was closely connected with the *Baner ac Amserau Cymru*. He left Manchester in 1865, and went to Llanidloes, which he describes as—

Llanidloes lle i anadlu
Awyr a gwynt Cymru gu.

In 1870 he took the post of stationmaster at Towyn, Merioneth; from thence in about eighteen months he moved to Caersŵs, as manager of the Van Railway. Dwelling on Ceiriog's characteristics as a poet, Mr Foulkes pointed out that, whilst an excellent artificer in the *mesurau caethion*, he excelled as the composer of lyrics, love songs, and pastorals. His "Myfanwy Vychan" is the best love song in the language, as his "Owain Wyn" is the best pastoral. In point of graphic delineation and pathos perhaps "Alun Mabon" excels the one and the other. As a song writer he had no equal "within miles," with the exception of Talhaiarn and Mynyddog. As a specimen of fanciful and suggestive poetry, Mr Foulkes read the poem entitled "Cyfoedion Cofadwy." He, the last of the "cyfoedion," has now followed the others, "trwy'r glyn a thrwy'r llwyn." November last he was at the London Gorsedd the recipient of such honours of acclamation and welcome as he (Mr Foulkes) never before saw offered to any Welsh bard. He now lies in the secluded churchyard of Llanwnnog, which will henceforth be known throughout Wales as the resting place of one of its faithfulest sons and best of poets.—Mr Marchant Williams, for the benefit of the English-speaking portion of the audience, gave a short sketch of the principal facts of the poet's life, in the English language, and dwelt on the share Mr Ceiriog-Hughes had in the well-known National anthem "God bless the Prince of Wales." From letters written by Mr Brinley Richards to the poet it is clear that the first suggestion came from the latter. When the song came to be a success, Mr George Linley, the writer of the English words, claimed to be the originator of the idea, when, as a matter of fact, all he did was to paraphrase the words sent to the composer by Mr Ceiriog-Hughes. Incidentally it was mentioned that £10 was the price paid by the publishers of "God bless the Prince of Wales" for the copyright, out of which they made a respectable fortune. They, however, later on gave the composer an honorarium of 100 guineas. Mr Ceiriog-Hughes's share of the transaction was only a signet ring presented to him by Mr Brinley Richards.—Mr P. Mostyn Williams, Rhyl, and Mr M. T. Morris, of Carnarvon, added to the stores of reminiscences of Ceiriog, and on the proposal of Mr Edmund Cleaton, a vote of condolence with Mrs Ceiriog-Hughes and the poet's family was passed.—Mr Marchant Williams announced that a strenuous effort was being made to secure a yearly grant from the Civil List to Mrs Hughes, and that in addition a fund had been opened, towards which he invited subscriptions. The Honorary Treasurer, Mr Stuart Rendel, M.P., heads the list with £25, and the Chairman of the meeting subscribed £5.—At the close of the proceedings Dr Isambard Owen presented to the meeting an old American member, Mr George Griffiths, of

New York, who received a most cordial welcome. Mr Griffiths was one of the founders of the St. David's Benevolent Society of New York. Although he left his native county of Carnarvonshire over sixty years ago he retains a warm affection towards the Principality and its people.

JUNE 15, 1887.

NOTES.

COELCERTHI HAF, OR MIDSUMMER BON-FIRES.—It is an interesting coincidence that one popular way of celebrating the Jubilee of Queen Victoria, in the year of grace 1887, should, for once at least, revive throughout the length and breadth of the British Islands a custom that universally prevailed among the Celtic inhabitants of these countries, namely the burning of huge bonfires, on Midsummer eve, on the tops of the highest hills. These midsummer fires were no doubt originally connected with some of the religious rites of the Celtic peoples, the custom having survived for centuries after its signification had been forgotten; and in Wales there are probably many living who can remember the custom of running through the *Coelcerth* (or *Coelcen*, as it is called in some places) on Midsummer eve. BONWM.

QUERIES.

MEALYS, PERFEDDGOED.—Llwyd in *Beau-maris Bay* states the only family in North Wales at that time (1800) descended from Iestyn ab Gwrgant, Prince of Glamorgan, to be the Mealys of Perfeddgoed, near Bangor—an estate possessed by them from a very remote period, and believed to have been granted to them by Llewelyn ap Griffith. About 50 years ago this family was represented by the Rev. R. R. Parry Mealy, of Perfeddgoed. Who is the present representative, if there be any? QUERIST.

ANCIENT TENURES OF LAND IN THE MARCHES OF WALES (Mar. 2, Apr. 20, 1887.)—It is to be regretted that the inquiries of your correspondent Bonwm resulted in his not being able to identify the fields referred to in my note of March 2nd. Possibly the identification may be achieved by another process. Maes-y-clawdd probably refers to some field through which *Clawdd Offa* ran, or was bounded by it. I believe the remains of Offa's Dyke are still visible opposite the Inn at the hamlet called "The Street." Is this spot in the township of Rhandregynwyn, if not, does Offa's Dyke run through the township of Rhandregynwyn, and if so, could it be ascertained through how many fields in that township does it pass. If the above could be cleared up, it would materially circumscribe the area over which an investigation need be made. Perhaps some correspondent acquainted with the township and its limits will kindly answer the above? PEARMAN.

REPLIES.

THE PRONUNCIATION OF SHREWSBURY (May 4, 1887).—Since I wrote my former note I have heard another pronunciation, *Showsbury*, which I class with *Srowsbury*, mentioned by Miss Jackson, in her

Shropshire Word Book, as a "semi-refined pronunciation." Thus we have no fewer than eight variations; the "classical and educated" *Shrousbury*, ranging down through *Shrowsbury* and *Showsbury*, to the *Sosebury* of country people; and the corrupt *Shrewsbury* analogously ranging through *Srewsbury* and *Shewsbury*, down to the utterly vulgar *Sewsbury*. I am by no means sure that there are not other intermediate forms, for no word seems to be a greater stumbling-block to Salopians than the name of their county town.

R.E.D.

Shrewsbury.

CURRENT NOTES.

We learn that the pedigree of Sir William Jones, in which the relationship of Lewis Morris (Llewelyn Ddu o Von) to the great Orientalist is clearly traced, and which the present Mr Lewis Morris, speaking at a recent Cymmrodorion meeting, stated had been lost, has been found amongst the old Cymmrodorion manuscripts in the British Museum.

The new church of St. John the Divine, at Rhyl was consecrated last week by the Bishop of St. Asaph. The foundation stones of this church were laid in August, 1885, by Lord Richard Grosvenor, then M.P. for Flint County, and others. The new building will accommodate 600 persons, and has been erected at a cost, exclusive of the pulpit, font, and boundary walls, of about £5,000.

Madame Patti, in returning to Craig-y-Nos Castle, had the honour of opening the Severn Tunnel route to London. Madame Patti and party left London by special train along the new route, this being the first passenger train to pass through the Severn Tunnel. The whole distance from Paddington to Neath was accomplished in four hours and twenty minutes. Madame Patti was received with loud cheers on emerging from the tunnel, and was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

The will of Mr George William Latham, formerly M.P. for the Crewe division of Cheshire, late of Bradwall Hall, in the county of Chester, and of the Inner Temple, barrister-at-law, who died on October 4th last, was proved in London on May 27th, by Alexander Mere Latham, the son, and Robert Bygott, the executors, the value of the personal estate being sworn under £5,000. The testator gives all his personal estate to his wife, Mrs Elizabeth Sarah Latham. All his real estate he leaves to her for life, and then to his said son, Alexander Mere Latham.

Mr J. Gwenogvryn Evans, who has done such service to the cause of Welsh palaeography by the publication of the first volume of the "Red Book of Hergest," has had the degree of M.A., honoris causa, conferred upon him by the University of Oxford. Mr Evans, who is a Cardiganshire man, was formerly in the Unitarian ministry. He retired some years ago owing to ill-health, and now devotes himself at Oxford to the study of Welsh literature. In conjunction with Professor Rhys he proposes to continue the publication of the "Red Book," and to bring out a facsimile series of Welsh texts.

CAT KILLING A SQUIRREL.—"Salop," writing in *The Field* of Saturday, says:—"As we were looking out of the drawing-room window on June 1, we saw a cat making a careful stalk round a tree, and on her making a spring, we went to see what the prey was, and found she had caught a full-grown squirrel by the back of the neck. After a violent struggle, she killed and made off with it."

VANDYCK'S PORTRAIT OF ANDREA SPINOLA.—This celebrated picture, the masterpiece of Vandyck's Genoese-

period, has just been purchased from Mr Martin Colnaghi by Mr Heywood-Lonsdale, of whose choice gallery it will be henceforth the principal ornament. It was offered to the National Gallery two months ago, but the trustees and directors were unable to purchase it on account of the obduracy of the Treasury.

THE NEW HEAD MASTER OF THE OSWESTRY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—At the meeting of the Governors of the Oswestry Grammar School held yesterday, Mr Herbert Mayne Buller, of New College, Oxford, and now second master of Bromsgrove (Millington's) School, was elected as the successor of Mr M. S. Forster, M.A., B.C.L., who has accepted the Bursarship of Wellington College. Mr Buller was head boy at Harrow School, Scholar of New College, Oxford, 2nd Class Classical Moderations, and 1st Class Classical Finals. There was a large number of candidates.

OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS.—Now that the last of our summer visitants have arrived (for I heard the well-known burr of the night jar this evening) it may be well to note in what numbers our feathered friends have visited us this year. There has been a marked falling off in the number of swallows and house martins, caused by the quantities that died from starvation last year, when it rained without cessation for 62 hours; but sand martins and swifts do not seem to have suffered in the same way. The welcome note of the cuckoo and landrail have not been heard so often this year as formerly, but, on the other hand, I do not remember ever having heard so many willow wrens and chaffs. Of the former there seemed to be one in nearly every bush along the Vyrnwy. Of rare birds building in the neighbourhood the only two examples that have come to my knowledge are a pair of red-backed shrikes, that have built within a few yards of where they were in 1885. It is most amusing to watch these birds, for they suffer nothing to come within any distance of their nest; from cats down to a sparrow they are all treated alike. The other example is that of a pair of woodcocks, whose nest I have not seen, but from the description that was given me I have no doubt at all of their having built.

TANTARA.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

The annual conversazione of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion, held this year at the Galleries of the Society of British Artists, was an undoubted success. The members, on their entrance, were received by the Chairman of the Council and the Conversazione Committee. The attendance included the Earl of Powis, president of the Society, General Sir Arthur Hues-Johnes, V.C., Col. Jenkinson, Mr Lewis Morris, Mr Henry Leslie, the musical conductor par excellence, Mr John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia), most popular of harpists, Mr Arthur J. Williams, M.P., club organizer and parliamentary whip to the Welsh Liberal party, Mr Hugh Owen, the son of the well-known patriot of the same name, and one of the chiefs of the Local Government Board, Mr T. H. Thomas of the Royal Cambrian Academy, Dr. Isambard Owen, Mr Marchant Williams, Mr W. Cadwaladr Davies, Mr Howel W. Lloyd, M.A., Mr Woo, a Chinese mandarin and a mathematician of repute, Mr George Griffith of New York, Mr C. W. Jones, together with many others who have done Wales some service. The Welsh passion for music is such that even the Cymmrodorion Conversazione more often than otherwise resolves itself into a concert. A short stroll through the picture galleries to see Mr Whistler's nocturnes and symphonies, and to compare the progress of development amongst his numerous imitators, brings us to the special business of the evening, and we sit down to a more or less Welsh concert. Madame Edith Wynne,

Miss Lizzie Jones, Miss S. A. Evans, Miss Eleanor Jenkins, Miss Megan Jones, Mr Maldwyn Humphreys, and Mr Wilfred Jones contribute many excellent songs, and Mr John Thomas, as usual, discourses most sweet music upon the harp. The arrangements were very satisfactorily carried out under the supervision of Mr John Owens.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

Owing to the indisposition of Lord Tennyson, Mr Lewis Morris has been invited by the Prince of Wales to write the Inaugural Ode for the foundation of the Imperial Institute.

On Thursday the Jubilee was celebrated at Styche near Market Drayton, when the Earl of Powis and Lady Mary Herbert gave a free dinner and tea, which was served in one of Messrs Purcell and Ellerton's large marquees, to the tenants, workmen, servants, and others living on the estate. Dinner was provided by Mr Wycherley, of the Corbet Arms, and the tea by Mr T. Jones. An interesting toast list was gone through. The Market Drayton Volunteer Band was in attendance. Dancing and a variety of sports were engaged in.

Under the heading of "Gallant little Wales," "A Member of the Powysland Club" writes as follows to the *Standard* :—"In the notice of the new coin, double florin, to be coined this Jubilee year, mention is made of the arms of the United Kingdom to be impressed on the reverse. I am sure I am only expressing the feeling of my countrymen in hoping that one of the shields may bear the arms of the Principality of Wales. The issue of this new coin offers a good opportunity for remedying a grievance—viz., the absence of all allusion to Wales on the coins of the realm."

On Thursday, in splendid weather, the residents of the ancient parish of Buildwas celebrated her Majesty's Jubilee at the old and picturesque Abbey. The children and parishioners assembled at the schoolroom, and marched in procession to the Abbey, headed by the Ironbridge Volunteer Band. On reaching the Abbey a short service was held, conducted by the Rev. E. Tritton Gurney, vicar. Suitable hymns were creditably sung by the children, accompanied by the band. A dinner was afterwards provided for the adults, numbering 150. Afterwards the procession was re-formed, and marched to the foot of the bridge, where Mrs. Walter Mossy planted an elm tree in commemoration of the event. This over, the children were entertained at tea, and sports followed.

The Women's Jubilee Memorial to the Queen from Shropshire, has, we understand, been warmly supported, and the Countess of Bradford has sent the sum of £615 17s 3d to the Central Fund in London. The following, amongst other amounts, were collected :—Per Mrs C. J. Edwards, Ness Strange, £5 17s 3d from 252 subscribers; per Mrs Slaney Eyton, Baschurch, £13 8s 11d from 325 subscribers; per Mrs Clay Finch, Whitchurch, £5 16s 6d from 183 subscribers; per the Lady Margaret Ormsby-Gore, Terrick Hall, Whitchurch, £25 from 877 subscribers; per the Mayoress of Oswestry and Lady Harlech, Brogyntyn, £120 6s 5d from 5,763 subscribers; per the Misses Kent, Whitchurch, £2 2s from two subscribers; per Mrs Lewis Price, Chirbury, £2 1s 11d from 111 subscribers; per Mrs Waugh, Donnington, Whitchurch, 4s 7d from five subscribers; per Miss Wynne, Ellesmere, £1 16s 10d from 56 subscribers.

WEST FELTON.

Tuesday, May 24th, will be a Red Letter Day in the recollection of the scholars of Felton School. About a week before that date Mr J. Dovaston signified his intention of giving each of them a "portrait of the Queen in

silver," as a memento not only of Her Majesty's birthday, but also of her jubilee. On the afternoon of the 24th May, as we reported last week, Mr Dovaston came to the school bringing with him a bag of new shillings. He addressed a few kindly and sympathetic words to the children, speaking of Her Majesty's long reign and describing his visit to the mint to obtain the glittering coins. After "God save the Queen" had been sung, Miss Dovaston distributed the money. Mr Dovaston's generosity was extended to all the children on the books, whether present or not, nearly 200 altogether. His memento of the day was the autograph of each child in a book he had provided for the purpose, and a pleasant recollection of the pleasure he had given to the children and also to their teachers.

OSWESTRY CORONATION PROCESSION.

The following copy of a handbill, bearing the imprint "W. Price, Printer, Cross Street, Oswestry," will be read with interest :—

OSWESTRY CORONATION PROCESSION, 23th JUNE, 1838.

BELLMAN,
BAND,
STAR BENEFIT SOCIETY,
GIRLS' NATIONAL SCHOOL,
BOYS' NATIONAL SCHOOL,
YEOMANRY,
SERGEANTS AT MACE,
CLERGY,
MAYOR AND CORPORATION,
GENTLEMEN AND TRADESMEN,
BAND,
SUN BENEFIT SOCIETY,

ODD FELLOWS' SOCIETY, &c. &c.
The Girls' School to be arranged on Foot-path,
adjoining the Town Hall.

The Boys' School immediately in front.
The Yeomanry in front of Boys' Schools.
Band in Centre.

Mayor and Corporation in front of Council Room.
Sun Benefit Society opposite George Inn.

Odd Fellows' Society opposite Castle Tavern.
Star Benefit Society at lower angle of the Square,
fronting Mr Roberts' Stationer.

To meet at Half-past Ten, in the Square of the
Guildhall.

To proceed to Church at Eleven o'Clock.
To form Four-deep in line of Procession.

On returning from Church, the different Congregations will join the Procession. The Children (Girls and Boys) immediately following the National Schools, and the Gentlemen and Tradesmen joining with those who accompany the Mayor, and Town Council.

The Procession will then proceed in the foregoing order to the Square of the Guildhall, where the Children, Trades Unions, Mayor, Corporation, &c., being arranged in the manner aforementioned, the National Anthem will be sung and played, after which, the Procession will be again formed to escort the Children of the National Schools to their Dinner at the Wynnstay Arms Hotel; the other Children and Clubs proceeding to their respective Dinner places.

The strictest order and attention is requested.

By Order of the Committee.

Oswestry, June 27th, 1838.

JUNE 22, 1887.

NOTES.

FOLK LORE.—FAITH HEALING.—CURE FOR JAUNDICE.—The following will show that in this part of Wales (Pembrokeshire) the old order of things has not alto-

gether "changed giving place to new"—on the contrary the trusting faith in which the cure was told me was quite refreshing. Thus, in my informant's words:—"If you have the Yellowws (Yellow Jaundice) come to me when the moon is at its full, tell no one of your intended visit, and you will be cured by eating a few pieces of apple, upon which are written some mystic words in Hebrew. The text is rather a long one and cannot be written upon one piece, hence it is divided into four, it is not all to be partaken of at the same time, for the charm will not work unless you sleep for two hours between each portion, and if you believe in the cure and trust that you will get better, you will have completely recovered in 14 days. This doctrine cannot be taught by a man to a man, but a woman may learn of a man, and vice versa." I would much like to hear if this particular "cure" is known in North Wales, as the Welsh in this part are a good deal mixed with the Flemish, who came here in the time of Henry VIII.

ENID.

Haverfordwest.

QUERIES.

THE WELSH CASTLES.—I do not concur in the inferences Mr Gladstone drew out of Pennant's surmise that something like 160 Castles had been erected in Wales and upon its borders, but Mr Gladstone's speech at Swansea, in which he referred to the Welsh and Border Castles, has at all events drawn attention to a very interesting point in our history, and I avail myself of it to try and evoke some historical discussion upon a question, which is still in doubt, but out of a discussion of which we may finally glean some new light that may be useful to students who come after us.

Let me premise that, when the Romans came over to Britain, we had no distinctive people in the land, such as English, Welsh, or Scots. The inhabitants were Britons, and the Romans no doubt meant to deal with them accordingly. How far they pushed their way to the West or North, need not be discussed here, but it is certain they occupied considerable parts of Northland South Wales, and subdued the inhabitants of those parts into obedience. They constructed roads, and did other useful works, and possibly erected some rude fortresses in divers places, and then the question arises, when were those fortresses erected, and why they were so constructed. They were not put up as against *the Welsh*, certainly, though they might have formed a part of a series of similar works in England and in Wales to keep the Britons in awe.

But when the Romans had left the country, and the Saxon hordes drove the British out of England to Wales, it is probable *the Welsh*, or Cambrians, did then put up rude castles of their own, to protect themselves against their Saxon and other foreign enemies, and that being then a distinct people they formed a nation, who were governed by their own princes, and probably according to the old laws, which might have been the old common law of the British people. But we are really in the dark as to where these castles were erected, and we thus have a second point of enquiry brought to notice which we should try and follow up. The point might be raised thus—What fortresses did the Romans put up in Wales and upon its borders between 45 B.C. and (say) A.D. 450; and what castles did the Welsh people put up between A.D. 450 and (say) A.D. 800? There can be no reasonable ground for supposing that the Welsh were left in quiet possession of their country during the latter period; for Saxons, Danes, Picts, Scotch, Irish, made raids upon them from time to time, and dealt with them as a distinct people or nation, and it is natural therefore to suppose the Welsh—as

a nation—did put up strongholds for their own protection against outsiders, and in some instances, probably, against the ambitious projects of contending princes and factions among themselves.

Between the close of the ninth century and the death of Harold, at Hastings, in the eleventh century, the Welsh had to struggle continuously against Saxon invaders and ambitious factions of their own countrymen, but when William the Norman conquered England, a great change took place in the condition of things in Wales. The Anglo-Normans, for instance, possessed themselves of Glamorganshire; and the Anglo-Norman Earls of Chester possessed themselves of a considerable portion of Flintshire, Denbighshire, Carnarvonshire, and Anglesey; and the Barons gained large possessions for themselves upon the Border lands in Cheshire, Salop, Hereford, and Monmouth, and they put up many strongholds to protect themselves against the aggressions of their Welsh neighbours. In other words, the Normans did not make war upon the nation of the Welsh as a nation, but they armed themselves against the people. The chain of fortresses alluded to by Mr. Gladstone partook of that character, and we should endeavour to mark them accordingly by name, and distinguish between them and the castles which the Welsh had put up for their own protection.

I remember at the moment the following castles which have a distinct history:—Holt, Overton, Caergwile, Mold, Euloe, Hawarden, Holywell, Disserth; but I exclude Ruthin, Denbigh, Rhuddlan, and Deganwy, for reasons which are self evident, if we will only look at the matter from the point of view covered by the period of 450-800. And then we are landed upon a new period, when Edward the First conquered Wales, and the Welsh ceased to be a nation. He erected Flint, Conway, Beaumaris, and Carnarvon Castles, and peopled them with his own retainers, just as he occupied Hawarden, Caergwile, Ruthin, Denbigh, Criccieth, and Harlech Castles with Englishmen, for they one and all were in the midst of a gallant and galled people, who submitted to English rule of necessity, and not from choice. I doubt if he troubled himself at all with the Border fortresses, for by that time the Anglo-Normans had settled down into Englishmen, and the lords of these strong-holds had little or nothing to fear from the disarmed Welshmen who surrounded them. The national life of Wales had ceased to be, both civilly and ecclesiastically, and from Holyhead to Cardiff the Principality was a mere province of England. My own impression is that there never did exist a distinct *Welsh Church*; the British Church became located in Wales, before the Anglo-Saxon Church existed, and remained perfectly independent of the Anglo-Saxon Church, and of Rome (as I believe) until the years 755-760, but it became subject to Rome then, and, in common with its sister English Church, so continued till Reformation times. Did any of the Welsh Sovereigns become subject in any way to William the Conqueror; or by treaties—of a legally binding character—become so to his successors before Edward the First conquered the entire country? In other words, was Wales wholly independent of England between the Conquest of the Norman and 1282? And finally (so far as North Wales is concerned) did the English Sovereigns after Edward's days erect any castles in that division of the Principality to over-awe their Welsh subjects? I have put the questions mainly with a view of separating the erection of fortresses in Wales and upon its borders to the periods B.C. 45—A.D. 450; A.D. 450—800; A.D. 800—1282, and the Edwardian period, so as to distinguish what was Roman from Welsh; Welsh from Anglo-Norman and English; and English as aggressive, as against the Welsh nation.

A CAMBRIAN ANTIQUARY.

REPLIES.

LUNGEOUS (May 11, June 1, 1887).—This word is still very commonly used in this neighbourhood amongst the working classes, instead of the word cruel, and a similar meaning always understood. I have never heard it used in the sense "W.O." attaches to it. It might be derived from the term "lunge," a process known to all horsebreakers, who tire young horses by galloping them at the end of a long rope, in a circle, until exhausted.

R.D.B.

Llanymynech.

CURRENT NOTES.

A beautiful water and clock tower has been erected in St. Peter's-square, Ruthin, with a fountain for the benefit of man and beast.

An extraordinary occurrence is reported from Chepstow. The ancient Parish Church of Mounthun has been visited by a swarm of bees. It seems that the windows of the church were opened for ventilation, and when the worshippers congregated for divine service it was found that their places had been usurped by a hive of bees, the scene being a most animated one. The service had to be given up.

Mr R. M. Lewis, of Swansea, recently sent to Mr Gladstone a copy of a translation into Welsh blank verse of the first book of the "Iliad," and he has received the following reply:—"I thank you for the kind and welcome gift. Lately, on receiving the 'Alcestis,' in Welsh (from Mr Rees, of the *Chester Chronicle* staff), I expressed the pleasure it gave me to see established any link between the cherished tongue of Wales and the noble literature of Greece. Now, when the point of connection is not Euripides, but Homer, I venture to repeat the remark, and to add to it a greater emphasis."

THE VICARAGE OF PENNANT.—The Vicarage of Pennant with Penybont, vacant by the promotion of the Rev. W. Morgan to the living of Llansantffraid-Glan-Conway, has been offered to and accepted by the Rev. David James, rector of Garthbeibo, near Welshpool.

OSWESTRY AND WELSHPOOL NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB, 1887.—The second excursion was made on Wednesday, June 15. Starting from Minsterley station, the party ascended the Stiperstones, by the way of the Snail-Leach Mine, where they obtained specimens of lead ore and barium. They then visited the ancient hollies on the Bleak Moor, and crossed the valley to Westcott Farm; crossed the Long Mynd into the Carding Mill Gorge, and reached Church Stretton in time for the seven train, after a hot, but very pretty walk. The views obtained from the Stiperstones and the Long Mynd were very fine and extensive. Some interesting plants were found, the field-madder (*Sherardia arvensis*), white variety, the butterwort, and red whortleberry (*Vaccinium vitis idæa*.)

THE LATE REV. T. ROBERTS (SCORPION).—The death of the well-known Welsh minister, writer, and lecturer, belonging to the Congregational body, the Rev. T. Roberts of Llanrwst (Scorpion), took place on Sunday, June 12, after a short illness, aged 69 years. Mr Roberts had been in the ministry for upwards of 45 years. The funeral took place at Llanrwst on Thursday, and was attended by a large number of mourners and friends. Mr Roberts was one of the six who took editorial charge of the *Dysgedydd*, the monthly organ of the Welsh Independents, and continued to be joint editor for 16 years. He was the author of several Welsh books.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

On Monday, June 20, Queen Victoria completed the fiftieth year of her reign, and on Tuesday her Majesty attended Divine Service at Westminster Abbey to give thanks for that auspicious event. The Jubilee is also being celebrated by public rejoicings in every part of Great Britain.

It is only seventy-eight years ago since the last Royal Jubilee was celebrated in England, when George III. was beginning the fiftieth year of his reign; but exactly five centuries have passed from the date of the preceding Jubilee of Edward III. (1307 to 1377), and only one other Sovereign, Henry III. (1206 to 1272) has occupied the Throne so long. Indeed it may be said with some truth that Victoria has ruled longer than any other British monarch, since Henry and Edward were boys for several years after their accession, and George III. was incapacitated by mental disease for a considerable part of his reign. Of these three Kings George III. alone reached the present age of Victoria, and only five other English Sovereigns have lived as long: George II., who died at 77, William IV., who was 72, Elizabeth, 69, George IV. and James II., 68. George III. was 82 when he died, after a reign of sixty years, and his granddaughter was 68 on the 24th of last May. Still enjoying vigorous health, it is not too much to hope that both in age and length of reign her Majesty will excel all her predecessors, of whom there have been thirty-six since Egbert (800 to 837). It adds to the interest of the present event that her Majesty is believed to be the first Queen in history who has reigned for fifty years.

LLANGOLLEN.

The inscriptions on the new bells in the parish church, which were consecrated on Tuesday, June 21st, are as follows:—

- First, or Treble Bell—"Jubilee Bells, 1887. Gloria Deo. Eccl. D.D. Carolus R. W. Tottenham de Plas-Berwyn."
 Second Bell—"Jubilee Bells, 1887. In Excelsis. In hon. R. Bowcott, B.A. Curat: Adjuv: ap: Llang: 1875-1882. D. D. Carolus T. Lucas."
 Third Bell—"Jubilee Bells, 1887. Et In Terra Pax. Ercóf an Griffith Lewis (ob: 1856). gan John Aird."
 Fourth Bell—"Jubilee Bells, 1887. Hosanna Filio. S. Math. xxi. 15. Children's Bell. Hennell LL. James, Hon. Sec."
 Fifth Bell—"Jubilee Bells, 1887. Hén a Newydd. In place of four old bells cast in 1697, 1722, 1759, 1762."
 Sixth Bell—"Jubilee Bells, 1887. Pro Regina. God save the Queen. Subscription bell, collected by Guild of Churchworkers."
 Seventh Bell—"Jubilee Bells, 1887. Pro Ecclesia. S. Math. xvi. 18. Subscription Bell. J. Nansen, G. W. Spurring, Churchwardens."
 Eighth, or Tenor Bell—"We are eight Jubilee Bells. June xx. 1887. Dona Dei Deo. Pro Deo. Heb Dduw heb ddin. Subscription Bell. En. Rhys James, B.D., Vicario, et Dd. Carrog Jones, B.A., curat: adjuv:"

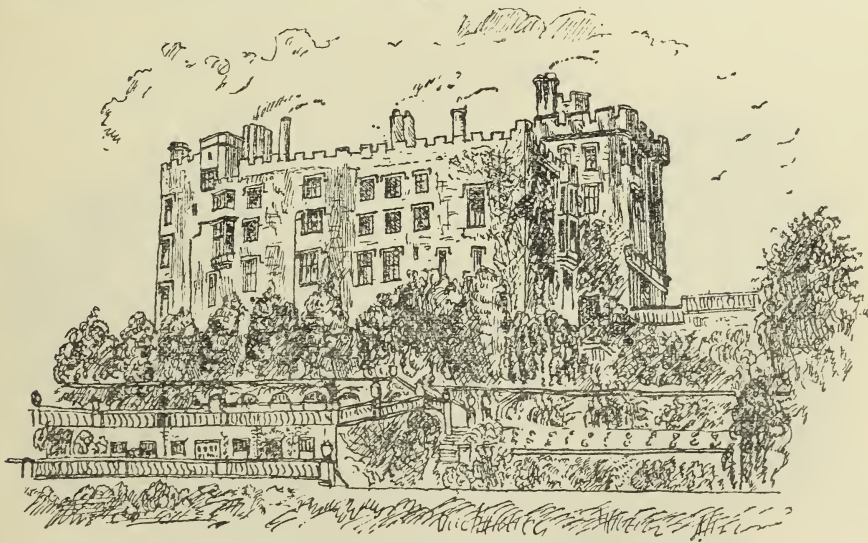
The following was the dedication prayer:—

"We humbly beseech Thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and especially this day to accept our free-will offering of a peal of eight bells to Thy glory, to the service of Thy Holy Church, and to commemorate the Jubilee year of the benignant reign of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto Thy Divine Majesty," &c., &c.

VISIT OF THE PRINCESS VICTORIA TO SHROPSHIRE AND WALES.

In the summer of 1832, the Princess Victoria accompanied her mother, the Duchess of Kent, on a prolonged visit to Plasnewydd, the marine residence of the Marquis of Anglesey, on the Menai Straits; and on her journey there she passed, on Thursday, the 2nd of August, through Shrewsbury, Butington, and Welshpool, to Powis Castle; next day she resumed her journey to Oswestry, passing through Llanymynech, Pant, Sweeney, and Morda. After a momentary stoppage she drove on through Chirk to Wynnstay, the entrance to Wynnstay Park being made at the Newbridge gate. The progress of the royal ladies through the streets of Shrewsbury was marked by scenes of the greatest enthusiasm. Accompanied by Lady Catherine Jenkinson, the Baroness Lehzen, and Sir John and Lady Conroy, they were met at the Talbot Hotel by Viscount Clive and the Hon. Robert Clive, by whom the Mayor of the borough, Archdeacons Butler and Bather, and the members of the Corporation, were introduced. The Deputy Recorder read an address expressive of the duty and loyalty of the Corporation to the throne; and the Duchess of Kent, in replying, said it should be her care to impress the recollection of their

Shortly afterwards the royal party resumed their journey to Powis Castle. On the borders of Wales they were met by a guard of honour, composed of members of the Montgomeryshire Yeomanry, commanded by Capt. Corrie. At Welshpool great preparations had been made for doing honour to the visit, a number of arches were erected in the streets, and the houses were adorned with evergreens, flowers, and banners. The inhabitants of the town all turned out, and together with a squadron of the county yeomanry marched as far as Butington to meet the cavalcade. As the procession approached the town of Welshpool, the bells were set ringing, the cheering and shouting became general, and from Powis Castle came salutes fired from the guns taken by Lord Clive at Seringapatam. In the evening a public dinner, presided over by Major Pugh of Llanerchydol, took place at the Royal Oak Hotel, the hostess being Mrs. Whitehall. Next day (Friday) the Mayor and Corporation of Welshpool paid a visit to Powis Castle and presented the Princess with an address. The Duchess, in responding, said it had been her wish to visit the Principality with the Princess for some time, but she was quite unprepared to enter it in the agreeable manner



POWIS CASTLE.

attachment on the mind of the Princess, for the happiness of her future life must depend upon her identifying herself with the feelings of all classes. At the request of the Duchess, the Mayor then introduced to their royal highnesses several gentlemen, including the high sheriff, Sir Rowland Hill, and Mr W. Ormsby-Gore, M.P. The Mayor, Lord Clive, and the Hon. Henry Clive were invited to lunch with the Princess, and subsequently the Princess was presented with boxes of "Shrewsbury Cakes" made by Mr Pidduck and Mr Davies, and prints giving views of local buildings.

that so cordially marked their reception at Welshpool, a reception so loyal to the king, and so gratifying to them as members of the Royal Family. She therefore seized the opportunity of assuring them and the inhabitants of Welshpool how deeply they felt the attention shown them by all classes on the previous day. Before leaving, Sir John Conroy was directed by the Duchess to forward to the treasurer of the schools a donation of £100.

Early in the afternoon the royal party resumed its journey, being escorted to Llanymynech by a detachment of the Montgomeryshire Yeomanry. The appear-

ance of the Princess and her mother is still fresh in the memory of the inhabitants of the healthy parish of Llanymynech, for a circumstantial description of her present Majesty, sitting in the carriage nursing a doll, is still current. At Llanymynech, on the Shropshire border, the duties of escort were undertaken by the Oswestry squadron of the then North Shropshire Yeomanry Cavalry, under the command of Captain Croxon. The appearance of the cavalcade in the village was the signal for a royal salute of twenty-one rounds from the lime rocks facing the visitors. Every opportunity of decoration was seized upon in the village of Llanymynech, and also at the Pant, Sweeney, and Morda. At Oswestry the procession was met at the Croeswylan gate by the High Steward of the borough, the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, and, in the absence of the Mayor, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., by the deputy Mayor, Dr. Donne, the Coroner, the members of the Corporation in their robes, a large number of the inhabitants of the town carrying white rods, and a multitude from the

was commanded by the Duchess to inform the "good people of Oswestry" of her great satisfaction. The "History of Oswestry," by Mr R. Minshull and the Rev. Peter Roberts, was presented to the princesses as they sat in the carriage, and they graciously accepted the present. The progress was then resumed, the Corporation and those on foot leading the way as far as the Beatrice-street gate. The houses of the town had been profusely decorated with innumerable flags and streamers, bearing appropriate inscriptions, the streets with their arches having the appearance of avenues composed of oak and laurel. The Oswestry squadron of cavalry continued the duties of escort as far as the boundary of Shropshire, the bridge over the Ceiriog at Chirk, Captain Croxon riding on one side of the royal carriage and Cornet Nicholls on the other. At Chirk bridge, on entering Denbighshire, the royal visitors were received by Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., in the uniform of a royal aide-de-camp, at the head of a body of the Denbighshire Cavalry. The



WYNNSTAY IN 1832.

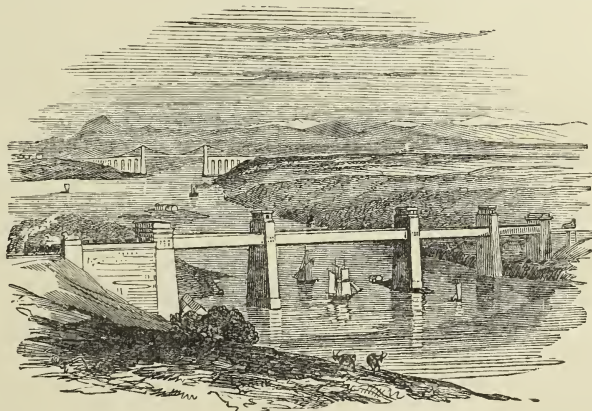
surrounding country. Here Lord Clive left the carriage in which he had driven with Sir John Conroy, and, joining the Corporation, the procession resumed its march to the Wynnstay Arms. As the Princess did not stay in the town an intimation was the previous day sent to the Deputy Mayor to the effect that the Princess could not receive an address; but, whilst the horses were being changed at the Wynnstay Arms, the High Steward welcomed the royal visitors, and

number of the general public who had assembled to welcome the Princess was again very great. Here a short stoppage was made, and Captain Croxon having been introduced by Lord Clive and Sir J. Conroy, their royal highnesses took leave of him, the Duchess expressing her high opinion of the officers and gentlemen of the Oswestry squadron under his command. Sir Watkin was also introduced, and the procession resumed its way, the inhabitants of Chirk turning out to do honour to

their passing visitors, the cannon at the Castle meantime announcing the fact of the passage to all the country round. At Newbridge a salute was fired from four nine-pounders by a detachment of the Denbighshire Militia, under Captain Jones. At Newbridge the royal visitors entered Wynnstay Park by what was then a new entrance.

On Sunday the royal party attended Ruabon Church, where the preacher was the Rev. Rowland Wingfield, M.A. On the Monday, accompanied by Sir Watkin and Mr Stanton, the Princess and her mother paid a visit to the Vroncysyllte aqueduct, in the examination of which they spent nearly an hour. The progress was then resumed to Llangollen, and at the King's Head, since this visit named the Royal Hotel, horses were changed. The town had been decorated with profusion in view of the visit, the houses were festooned with evergreens and flowers, a triumphal arch spanned the street, and the portico of the hotel was beautifully decorated, prominent amongst its decorations being a royal crown. The royal party remained for about half an hour, and then resumed the journey for Bangor. At Bangor, accompanied by Mr W. Provis, they inspected the Suspension Bridge. The bridge passed, a royal salute was fired by the guns of the

gal, the Archbishop of Tuam, the Bishop of Bangor, the Bishop of Dromore, Lord Boston, Sir W. Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P., Sir Edward and Lady Mostyn, Sir S. R. Glynne, Bart., M.P., Mr Philip Yorke, Erddig, Sir John Hilton, and Major Hilton. The Eisteddfod was held in the court yard of the Castle, but the weather on the second day, the day of the proposed royal visit, was unfavourable, and the Princess therefore attended at Baron Hill, where she undertook to invest the successful competitors, and in addition to their prizes to give each a royal medal. The gold medal for englynion apropos of the royal visit was awarded to the Bard of Nantglyn. Baron Hill is about a mile from Beaumaris and here at four in the afternoon the audience attending the Eisteddfod, with many others, adjourned. The investitures took place on the terrace in front of Baron Hill, and at the close of the ceremony the band played "God save the King," and Mr Parry, the musical director of the Eisteddfod, sang a stanza in honour of the occasion, in the chorus of which the audience joined. Amongst those who on this occasion were invested by her Majesty were Miss Angharad Llwyd of Caerwys, Mr John Williams of Oswestry, Mr Robert Davies of Nantglyn, and the Rev W. C.



MENAI BRIDGES.

Craig-y-don yachts, and at Beaumaris, where they stayed a few days, the royal visitors received a most enthusiastic welcome. While staying here their royal highnesses paid visits to Carnarvon Castle, Conway, Bangor, Holyhead, and other places in the neighbourhood.

THE PRINCESS AND THE EISTEDDFOD.

Subsequently they took up their residence at Plasnewydd, where they stayed about two months. While staying at Plasnewydd the Princess and her mother arranged to pay a visit to the Eisteddfod held at Beaumaris, over which Sir R. Williams Bulkeley, Bart., M.P., presided, amongst those present at which were Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., and Lady Grosvenor, Lord and Lady Mostyn, the Lady Helena Cooke, the Hon. E. M. Lloyd Mostyn, M.P., Lord and Lady Fin-

Williams (Caledfryn), winner of the chair prize, which was offered by the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria, viz., £20 and a medal, for the best "ode" on the "Wreck of the Rothesay Castle."

On Monday, Oct. 15, Princess Victoria and the Duchess of Kent set out on their return journey, being escorted into Abergele by a troop of the Denbighshire Cavalry, commanded by Captain Heaton. At Kinnel Park, the seat of Lord Dinorben, where the Duke of Sussex was staying, they had lunch. On entering Flintshire they were met by Sir John Williams of Bodelwyddan, and a large concourse of people; and at St. Asaph a great number of the inhabitants of the district, with the clergy and gentry, met them at the Elwy Bridge. Horses were changed at the White Horse Hotel, Holywell, and the procession passed through Northop and Hawarden,

whence they were conducted to Eaton Hall by a troop of the Flintshire Cavalry, commanded by Lord Robert Grosvenor. Eaton Hall was reached before six o'clock, and here the Princesses stayed as the guests of the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster. During her stay at Eaton the Princess drove over the Grosvenor Bridge and named it, visited Chester Castle and Cathedral, and with her mother stood sponsors at the baptism of the infant daughter of Lord and Lady Robert Grosvenor. On the Thursday a great archery meeting was held at Eaton, and at eight next morning the royal party resumed their homeward journey.

THE NEW KNIGHTS.

Among the Mayors who have received the honour of knighthood is Mr Thomas Storey, Mayor of Lancaster, and of Downing, Holywell.

Mr Hugh Owen, C.B., who has been created a K.C.B., is a son of the late Sir Hugh Owen. He was born in 1835, was called to the Bar in 1862, acted as Assistant Secretary to the Local Government Board from 1876 to 1882, and in the latter year became Permanent Secretary to the Board.

Amongst the honours conferred by the Queen to signalize the Jubilee, Mr Pryce Jones, of Dolerw, Newtown, is made a knight. Mr Pryce Jones is the second son of the late Mr William Jones, solicitor, of Newtown, in the county of Montgomery. He was born in the year 1834, and is married to Eleanor, second daughter of the late Mr Edward Rowley-Morris, of the same place. Mr Pryce Jones entered into business at Newtown, and has succeeded in building up so large a concern in connection with the woollen trade that he has transactions with many parts of the world. In 1880, he contested the Montgomery Boroughs as a Conservative, and was defeated by the Hon. F. Hanbury Tracy; but in the General Election of December, 1885, Mr Pryce Jones was returned to the House of Commons, where he sat until the Dissolution in the summer of 1886. There was then another contest, and Mr Hanbury Tracy regained the seat; but it is understood that Sir Pryce Jones will again be a candidate at the next election.

CYMRU FU.

THE VALE OF IAL (YALE).

I'll tell you a tale as 'twas told to me.

—*Sir W. Scott.*

There is hardly a country with so many beautiful valleys as "Wild Wild Wales." Some are more picturesque and fruitful, while others are more wild and romantic. The Vales of Tanat and Meifod possess deep rivers, which wind along their whole length with beautiful and fertile meadows, most delightful to gaze upon. On the other hand, there are valleys which are destitute to a certain extent, of such attractions, yet possess some romantic wildness which is very agreeable to the imagination of the poet, and the researches of the antiquary. One of such is the beautiful Vale of Iâl, which means an open space or region.

We begin our notes with Bryn Tangor or Tranquil Hill, a large farm house of modern date, situated above the road leading from Corwen to Bryn Eglwys. This place was inhabited by the Wynns, who were descendants of Elisau ab Griffith of Iâl. From the Wynns it came through marriages to the possession of the Ffoulkes of Eriviatt Hall, by Denbigh. One John Rogers, of Bryn-tangor, was foreman of the jury in the trial of Richard White, before Mr. Justice Bromley, at the Assizes held in

Wrexham in 1584. White, who was a native of Montgomeryshire, was barbarously executed at Wrexham, October 15, 1584, for being a Roman Catholic. There is an interesting account of him in the History of Powys Vadog, Vol. III., by the Chevalier Lloyd. Lower down the other side, nearer Bryneglwys, and facing the turnpike road, is Blaen Iâl, a large old fashioned house, with thick stone walls, and of ancient structure. Here the Lloyds resided, who were descended from David ab Einion of Iâl. The estate descended from the Lloyds to Owen Thelwall. The Thelwalls came to this part of the country with Earl Grey De Ruthin, the great enemy of Owen Glyndwr. From the Thelwalls, through the Lloyds of Rhydriol, it came to the possession of the late Mr Townshend Mainwaring of Oteley, by Ellesmere, Mr Mainwaring marrying Anna Maria Lloyd, the heiress of Blaen Iâl and Galtfaenan. Leaving the latter place we soon come to Bryneglwys, a small rustic hamlet, the houses being scattered, with a small double church situated on an eminence, as the name indicates and dedicated to St. Tisilio, the son of Brochwel Ysgythrawg, Prince of Powis. Tisilio was a poet and historian, and some of his productions are published in the "Myfyrian Archaiology." The tithes of this parish belonged once to Valle Crucis Abbey, and the Monks in their turn used to come and hold services in the church. There are several mural monuments in the edifice to the Thelwalls of Blaen Iâl, Pugh, Tygwyn, Rev. John Yale, and Colonel W. Parry Yale of Plasynale, who distinguished himself in the Peninsular War, having received the gold medal for Albuera, and the war medal with eight clasps; also, to Elizabeth Yale, who left £200 in her will, the interest of which is to be distributed twice a year amongst six of the oldest maidens in the parish, whose characters are strictly moral. There is a cross in the Yale Chapel bearing the following inscription:—"Hic Jacet Tangwystl fil. Yeuaf ab Mareddud." Tangwystl was the daughter of Ieuan ab Meredith of Bodidris. She was buried at Valle Crucis Abbey, and her stone coffin was removed to Bryneglwys Church when the Abbey was destroyed. In the churchyard, under the shades of ancient yew trees, are the remains of a rustic Welsh poet named Shon Prys, Philomath, publisher of Welsh Almanacks for about forty years, and author of "Porthwr Ysbrydol," which was published by Marsh at Wrexham in 1760. Prys was the chief adjudicator at the Glyn Ceiriog Eisteddfod in 1743; he died at Brynallwynog, Bryneglwys, in 1795, aged 91 years.

About two miles from Bryneglwys in the direction of Dafarn Dywyroch, a place visited by George Borrow, is Plas yn Iâl, or Allt Llwyn Dragon, the Cliff in the Chief Grove, a neat modern mansion. The Yales were descended from Osborn Wyddel, Earl Desmond, who came from Ireland to Wales with Griffith ab Ednyfed of Anglesey. The last of the Yales was one Sarah Yale, who died in 1821, and entailed the Plas yn Iâl estates upon William Parry, fourth son of Thomas Parry Jones Parry of Madryn who assumed the name of Yale. The present owner is Mr W. C. Yale, eldest son of John Jones Parry, youngest son of the above T. P. Jones Parry of Madryn. Out of this family came Elihu Yale, who was born in Newhaven, Connecticut, April 5, 1648. He was a great benefactor of Yale College, America, which was named after him, and a large merchant, who "brought such quantities of goods from India, that finding no house large enough to stow them in, he had a public sale of the surplus, and that was the first auction in England and Wales." He was buried at Wrexham, July 22, 1721. Almost adjoining Plas yn Iâl is Bodnwydlog, the ancient patrimony of Ithel Felyn of Iâl, son of Llywelyn of the Golden Torque, who flourished in the 12th century. Ithel had vast estates in

Flintshire, Denbighshire, and Shropshire. His wife was Ellen, the daughter of Prince Griffith ab Cynan, and his sons were Hwfa and Llywelyn. Opposite Plas-y-fâl, the other side of the vale, is Hafod Abbot, a middle-sized farm, belonging to the Rhagatt Estate, which, with many other farms in the neighbourhood, was purchased by Judge Lloyd of Berth. Here the Abbots of Valle Crucis spent most of their time during the summer months. They had a small chapel near to the place, and some of the beams which belonged to the building are to be seen holding the thatch of an old shed close by. Mr E. O. V. Lloyd of Berth was on the point of restoring the old chapel, but he has not accomplished his object. There is a large yew tree close to the place, and many Irishmen during harvest time were in the habit of assembling on Sundays to worship under the green branches of the old tree. Not far off, somewhere in Bwlchrhiwfelen, whilst defending the passage against the enemy in those turbulent times, Gwell, one of the brave sons of Llywarch Hen, was slain and interred. Along the upper road, which leads from here by Eliseg's column, towards Llangollen, is some of the most picturesque scenery in North Wales. Leaving Rhiwfelen, to the direction of Nantgarth, on the side of the Ruthin road, are the remains of Rhodwy Castle, which was built by Owen Gwynedd in 1148. From here Madog, according to tradition, went in search of the country where the sun sets. The present extensive traces show plainly that the fortification had been of great importance. The road which leads from here in the direction of Llanfair, is most romantic. The drive winds like a serpent between steep sidelands in some places, and stupendous rocks and woody slopes, adorned with different ferns, gorse, and wild flowers, a swift rivulet rushing down from amongst the rocks, now this side and then the other side of the road for about three miles, which makes the opening from the Vale of Iâl to that of the Clwyd one of the most beautiful scenes in our country. Lower down, on the right, in the direction of Llanarmon, is the beautiful little village of Llandegla, with its neat church, dedicated to St. Tegla, national schools, and model cottages, which were erected in 1866 by Lady Willoughby de Broke. There is a small field near the church named Gwern Tegla, also a well, in regard to which there was a vast amount of superstition in days gone by. In the year 1749, the Rural Dean ordered the parish clerk of Llandegla not to let anyone enter the church at midnight for the purpose of observing any ceremonies having connection with these superstitions. The church service was neglected for years, the service being held on Sundays at nine in the morning, when the clergyman would hurry through the prayers, so that the people used to be astonished at the talents of John y Clochydd, who could read as quick as Mr Denman. But things are changed for the better, and the Church is now very flourishing at Llandegla. Higher up on the right, on a beautiful green side-land facing the sun, is the old mansion of Bodidris, whose thick walls are as strong as those of any castle. This place belonged to the Lloyds, who claim their descent from Ednwyn Bendew, the chief of one of the Royal Tribes of Wales. The estate came to the possession of the Mostyns, who afterwards sold it to the late Sir Hugh Williams, Bart, Bodelwyddan. There are several monuments to the Lloyds, in Llanarmon Church, viz., that of Griffith ab Llywelyn, in armour, who was brother to Llywelyn ab Ynyr, Bishop of St. Asaph, also mural monuments to the two Sir Evan Lloyd of Bodidris, and one to John Lloyd, which is outside the wall of the church, but is supposed to be much earlier. John Lloyd was Abbot of Valle Crucis in 1480, and his monument was taken from

the Abbey to Llanarmon when the old edifice was taken down. The Lloyds were warm patrons of the Welsh bards, and there are several elegies extant by Tudur Aled, and Guttyn Owen, St. Martins, to this ancient family. Guttyn says that the English of Mercia were much afraid of Tudor Lloyd of Bodidris:—

Gwr yn y Mars a'i arswyd.

Tudor Lloyd was slain in a riot, which happened on a Thursday; such quarrels often occurred in those days between the inhabitants of Iâl, Ystrad Alun, and the men of Cheshire. Tudur Aled, in his elegy on Tudor Lloyd, describes the lighted candles around the coffin, the funeral, and the deep lamentation of the inhabitants of Iâl for their great benefactor:—

Syrthiais, llewygais i'r llawr,
Ban welais ben ei elawr;
Gelwais swm a'm gloes arno,
Gawr drwy'r graig a'r derw a'r gro.
Pe clywai fi, pe cloi fur,
Fe ddatodai fedd Tudur.

Sir Evan Lloyd, Bodidris, got in much trouble in the time of Cromwell for his tenacity to the cause of Charles the First. The Blue Shearer of Eglwyseg, Llangollen, was sent to apprehend him. The Baronet was hiding in the cellar when the Shearer made his appearance at Bodidris. He made use of strong threats and stamped the floor, swearing that he would have Sir Evan, dead or alive. However, he was soon pacified and sent about his business, receiving a large bribe for his journey. Another story is told of Sir Evan Lloyd. One of his tenants came to him one day complaining that one of his neighbours was neglecting his land, and that he was not half cultivating it, and he begged of the Baronet to let him have the farm. "Very well, I will consider the matter," said Sir Evan, and he ordered his agent to give notice in time to the careless tenant and the complainant. Both farmers came to Sir Evan to speak about their homes, when the Baronet said that the bad farmer must go to reside to the farm which was cultivated, and that the industrious farmer must take to the other farm, so that both farms might be cultivated for a time. This put a stop to the habit which then prevailed in Iâl amongst farmers, to go in an underhanded way to injure each other with their landlord. The Lloyds of Bodidris were very generous, patriotic, and hospitable. Guttyn Owen says of David Lloyd:—

Yn Modidris ni phrisiwyd
Yn ei fyw, na'i win na'i ffwyd.
Nadolig ar frig y fron,
Gwin rhudda gawn a rhoddion.
Sidan oddi am dano,
A'i aur a'i feirch a roi fo.

The old hall contained a large quantity of armour and ancient furniture, which was removed to Mostyn Hall, when the place was sold. It is said there were subterranean passages leading into the mountains. Several human skeletons were found in the neighbourhood, one being that of a full grown person, which was discovered in a stone coffin in the ground, when a large ash tree was felled near the hall. Part of the coffin is placed in the garden at Bodidris. The old people assert that there was a large stable belonging to the place, where a great number of cavalry could go in and out, without dismounting from their horses. Perhaps this accounts for so many soldiers, being the brave men of Iâl, following Llywelyn ab Ynyr, and distinguishing themselves in the battle of Crogen, where the English were defeated by Owen Gwynedd and Owen Cyfeiliog. Lower down the Vale on the left, a few

years since, a cavern was found, on the Raggatt estate, at Perthi Chwaraau, literally crowded with skeletons. "Examination showed the human bones to be those of a short people, with long skulls, prominent noses and small features. The polished stone implements found near them showed that they belonged to the neolithic age." Amongst noted men who were natives or resided in Iâl, we may mention "Old Cyrus of Iâl," whose proverbs were collected by William Morris, Llanilinensis, Ieuan Brydydd Hir, and others, and published in the "Myfyrarian Archæology," also by Iolo Fardd Glas in his Welsh and English Dictionary—poor Iolo, after devoting most of his laborious life to the perusal of Welsh literature, ended in his old age his days in a Workhouse in South Wales, which reflects no honour to Cambria, the land of Eisteddfodau; the learned doctor, John Davies, Mallwyd, author of a Welsh and Latin Dictionary, which was held in high estimation for about 200 years; John Humphreys Parry, author of the "Cambrian Plutarch," and father of the late Sergeant Parry, the eminent barrister; the Rev. R. Williams, rector of Llanferes, who accompanied Pennant in his travels, and translated several pieces from the Welsh poets, which were published in "Tours in Wales," and Jones's "Relics of the Bards." Wilson, the great landscape painter, resided for many years, and died, at Colomendy Hall, Llanferes. The Rev. Richard Bonnar, an eminent Wesleyan minister and poet; the Rev. Edward Jones, 3rd, ditto, a well-known polemic Welsh writer; Thomas Jones, the Lame Bard, of Long Acre, London; and Richard Rowlands, Llanarmon, a celebrated Welsh harpist, also belonged to Iâl.

I cannot do better than conclude this article in the language of Ioan Tegid:—

Tra fo môr, a thara fo mynydd,
Tra fo'n llifo yr awonydd
Na foed Cymro mewn gelyniaeth,
A hen wlad ei enedigaeth.

Llwyn Dedwydd.

LLYWARCH HEN.

JUNE 29, 1887.

NOTES.

FOLKLORE.--A PROTECTION FROM RHEUMATICS.—A while ago, I stayed a night at a pretty village in the recesses of the Denbighshire hills, and according to my custom, I went in search of old sayings, or old words, or anything and everything old, and, as is always the case, when searches are properly conducted, my search was not in vain. I promised not to disclose my informant, and so I cannot transmit her name to posterity as I could wish to do, for she told me of a wonderful prevention from, as it is locally called, rheumatics, and such a benefactress ought to be known to posterity; however, as she was not the discoverer of the recipe, she might through modesty not wish to appropriate more honour than is her due. Now this is what this lady told me. She said that there is a man in this very village, that has never been afflicted with rheumatism, a not uncommon ailment in those parts. His name and place of abode were told me, and I have them down in my note book, but I do not think I am justified in divulging them. This man showed my informant the remains of a potato which he always kept in his trousers pocket to keep the rheumatics away. It was a much worn potato, having reached its present diminished size by coming in contact with other things carried in the pocket. When it is quite worn away its place will be supplied by a new

potato. It was by this means that this man thought he had escaped the lot of others. Surely prevention is better than cure, and everyone who lives in an undrained country had better carry a potato in his pocket! E. O.

QUERIES.

THE REV. JOHN KENRICK.—A friend has called my attention to a short notice of this gentleman, which appeared in *Bye-Gones* May 30th, 1877, and he states "he was a descendant of the Rev. Philip Henry, of Broad Oak, Flintshire." If this could be proved, it would give me very much pleasure, for Mr Kenrick was a well-known scholar and writer, and "a tutor at a Unitarian College at York." My own impression is, that he was son to the Rev. Timothy Kenrick of Exeter, the author of a learned exposition of a part of the New Testament, which was published in three handsome octavo volumes in 1807, three years after the death of the author. This gentleman was born at Wynn Hall, Ruabon, in the year 1759, and the son was born at Exeter in the year 1788. According to a pedigree now before me, the first connection of the Kenricks with the Henry family occurred in 1781, as will be seen by the following short statement. Sarah Henry, the eldest daughter of Philip and Katherine Henry, married John Savage, of Wrenbury Wood, in Cheshire. Their second daughter, Katherine Savage, married her kinsman, John Savage, of Shenton Wood, in the year 1717. Their third son, Samuel Savage, married Sarah Roe. And their daughter Sarah Savage, in 1781, married Mr. Kenrick. It is manifest therefore that the Rev. John Kenrick could not have derived from Philip Henry in *that line*. Mr. John Kenrick (grandfather to Timothy Kenrick) became a Nonconformist minister at Wrexham in the year 1707, and remained there (*I think*) to his death, when he was succeeded by Mr Francis Boulton. He was born at Wynn Hall in 1683, and died in 1744, but I am unable to say who his son was, although I am certain that Timothy Kenrick was his grandson, and John Kenrick—whose name is at the head of this note—his great-grandson. Mr John Kenrick (the Wrexham minister) had a brother, Edward Kenrick, and he was ordained to the ministry by the Rev. Matthew Henry in 1702. He married a daughter of Mr. Hugh Owen, Bronyclydwr (a noted Nonconformist), and undertook the oversight of the Churches which his father-in-law had formed. He is often called as of Bala, and is known to have befriended Mr. Jenkin Morgan, and Mr Lewis Rees, when in 1742 they preached at Bala, and in the neighbourhood. If any further information can be given of the Kenricks of Wynn Hall, it will be very welcome to many of us.

MENTMORE.

REPLIES.

WELSH CASTLES (June 22, 1887).—I read with much interest the communication of *A CAMBRIAN ANTIQUARY* in your columns of June 22. I beg leave to call his attention to three castles, which form prominent objects of view from the railway on a journey from North to South Wales, and which were erected by Welsh chieftains for their own protection. In the first place I would mention Castell Dinas Brar, on the hill above Llangollen,

said to have been built by the Lords of Iâl. Then Powis Castle, in Montgomeryshire, built by Gwenwynwyn—Prince of Powys—towards the latter end of the twelfth century, called Castell Coch yn Powys. Lastly, in the county of Carmarthen, Dynevor Castle, or Dinas Fawr, said to have been built by Roderic the Great, King of all Wales, who died 877; and rebuilt about 1150. These two castles have an especial interest, as having been the abodes of two of the three Princes of Wales, and we may presume were built to protect and not to coerce the Welsh. A CAMBRIAN ANTIQUARY speaks of the Anglo-Normans possessing themselves of Glamorganshire. But did not Hamon Fitz Hamon and his eleven knights come direct from Normandy? Coming over as an ally of one of the native princes, the adventurers fighting first on this side, then on that, became masters of the richest part of the county. D. PHILLIPS LEWIS.

Llandrinio Rectory.

COCKSHUTT (May 4, 1887.)—The discussion on the subject of this place-name, if protracted, has been exceedingly interesting. But how sad the thought that the pen of one who has taken part therein is for ever laid aside! Ceiriog is no more! Perhaps the citation of the Montgomeryshire examples which have come under my notice will throw some additional light, and serve to enhance the interest.

1. A farm in the parish of Guilsfield.
 2. A hamlet in the parish of Churchstoke.
 3. A farm in the parish of Llanbrynmair, or Llan-erfyl, I forget which: a thoroughly Welsh district.
 4. A field on Bettws Hall farm, parish of Bettws.
 5. A field on Ty'nybanadl farm, parish of Tregynon.
- These fields are within a mile of each other, and, singularly enough, a wood adjoins each: the soil of each is somewhat reddish; one lies at the foot of a hill, the other forms the crest of another hill: all, or nearly all the surrounding place-names are Welsh. The local pronunciation varies. Sometimes it is *coch-shed*, which seems to confirm the theory of Mr. R. Davies, that *coch* is the root of the first syllable; but I submit that *allt* as the root of the second is too far fetched. By the way, a gullet or narrow passage in the village of Bettws is known as *The Shut*.

6. A farm in the parish of Tregynon, known as *Cochshidan*, which I take to be only another form of the same word.

The Welsh word *cwch*, referred to, not only means a boat, but also a hive, and sometimes a hut, a household, a tribe, or a colony. T.H.J.

CURRENT NOTES.

We record with much regret the publication of the last number of the *Red Dragon* (for June). The "National Magazine of Wales" was conducted with much skill, and did good service; and many readers in the Principality and over the Border will regret to miss it month by month. The antiquarian section is to be continued in the *Western Mail*, under the editorship of Mr G. H. Brierley.

SHROPSHIRE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—A munificent gift has been presented to this society by the Rev. E. L. Barnwell, of Melksham House, Wiltshire. It consists of more than 300 camera lucida sketches of ancient buildings, and prehistoric remains in North and South Wales and the bordering counties, made by Mr Worthington G. Smith, F.L.S., &c., from 1875 to 1885. They are handsomely

bound in seven folio volumes, each sketch being mounted on thick card board, and arranged in counties. The collection is quite unique, and is admirable in point of artistic merit. The views of buildings, &c., are all carefully coloured, and the prehistoric remains, comprising cromlechs, kistvaens, inscribed and sculptured stones are all as accurate as photographs. These invaluable volumes will be transferred to the Free Reference Library, where Mr Barnwell wishes them to be deposited. As a small token of the appreciation of Mr Barnwell's gift, and to mark their sense of his liberality, the Society have unanimously elected Mr Barnwell an honorary member.

A MOUNTAIN ON FIRE AT GLYNDYFRDWWY.

Early on Wednesday morning last, great volumes of smoke were observed on that part of the Berwyn mountain, situated to the south of Glyndyfrdwy, and about 3 or 4 miles from Llangollen. Scores of men, including gamekeepers, woodmen, farmers, farm servants, and general labourers, hurried to the spot, and arming themselves with sticks and different kinds of instruments, endeavoured their utmost to arrest the progress of the fire, which was spreading with wonderful rapidity, and creating complete devastation on every hand. Notwithstanding their energetic and self-sacrificing efforts, the flames continued their devastating course, with resistless fury, enveloping the whole mountain, and extending their ravages to the adjoining woodlands. This continued during Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, until by the evening of the latter day, a tract of country, several square miles in extent, had been converted into a black charred district, in which the stumps of hundreds of fence poles and burnt trees were seen above the ground. Hundreds of young grouse, rabbits, and game of different kinds, were making pitiful efforts to escape from the devouring element ultimately perishing in the flames. About an acre and a half of woodland belonging to Captain Best has been totally destroyed; but the greatest sufferer from this calamity is Major Tottenham, whose extensive grouse moor has been rendered a barren waste. By Saturday the fire was happily got under, but men are kept constantly on the watch, as it is feared that a high gust of wind may at any moment cause a rekindling of the smouldering embers, and spread the conflagration. The cause of the fire is simply a matter of conjecture. At first it was naturally supposed that sparks might have fallen on the dry grass or heather from the beacon fires which were lit on the summit of the hill on Jubilee Day, but as the spot where the fire originated was about a mile away from the bonfire, that supposition has been abandoned. The most probable inference is that one of the men who during the last few days have been engaged in collecting together the sheep for shearing might have carelessly and accidentally ignited the dry and combustible materials on the surface of the hill.

Our Glyndyfrdwy correspondent writes:—The moor is from three to four miles in length, and in some places about a mile in breadth, so that it will be seen that nearly 2,000 acres of excellent grousing ground has been destroyed for several years to come; but it will afford excellent pasture for sheep in about two or three years. It is feared that large numbers of grouse have been killed in the flames, the birds being too young to save themselves by flying, while we have heard that some have been actually roasted whilst in the act of sitting upon their eggs. The appearance of the slope of the mountain on Wednesday night while under the fire was magnificently grand and impressive.

The Late Rev. D. Mountfield.

We much regret to record the death at Harrogate of the Rev. David Mountfield, M.A., rector of Loftus, in Cleveland, and for many years rector of Newport, Salop. Mr Mountfield had been in failing health for some years, and last spring he resorted to Cannes, where he was staying at the time the earthquakes occurred there. He returned, but little benefited, and this month went on a visit to Harrogate, where he sank, dying on Sunday, June 19. Mr Mountfield was born in Liverpool in 1828, and received his early education in the High School of that city; he was subsequently under the tutorage of Professor Donald Cameron, and in 1847 he entered St. John's College, Cambridge. He graduated in 1850, proceeding to his master of arts degree in 1853. In 1850 he was ordained by Bishop Lonsdale, and successively became curate of Burton-on-Trent and St. Chad's, Shrewsbury. In 1854 he was preferred to the vicarage of Oron, and in April, 1864, he was presented by the Lord Chancellor (Westbury) to the rectory of Newport, Salop. Mr Mountfield married the only surviving daughter of Mr C. R. Heynes of Chipping Norton, and she died last August, leaving several sons and daughters. The establishment of the Working Men's Club, the building of schools, and the restoration of the parish church, are monuments of Mr Mountfield's tenure of the Rectory of Newport. Though a zealous Churchman, Mr Mountfield was a man of the broadest sympathies. In politics he was a Liberal, and he held the office of chairman of the Newport Divisional Liberal Association, and subsequently of the Shropshire Central Liberal Council, in which position he had much to do with the arrangements for the visit of Earl Granville to Shrewsbury in November, 1885, and also with the Liberal victory in the Newport Division at the following election. It was only in May last year that Mr Mountfield was preferred to the Rectory of Loftus. The remains were interred at Oron on Thursday, the mourners being the Rev. D. W. Mountfield, son of the deceased, Mr W. Mountfield, brother of deceased, the Rev. Mr Sims, late curate of Oron, the Rev. Mr O'Regan, Mr C. C. Walker, Lilleshall Old Hall, Mr John Bodenham, Edgmond, Messrs Smith, cousins of deceased, and several other friends from Newport.

JULY 6, 1887.

NOTES.

CHARMS.—Several halloween charms have occurred to me while reading recent numbers of *Bye-Gones*. One Welsh charm had a great notoriety amongst the Welsh maidens—a sure way of knowing their future husband. The maid sat inside her chamber window, threw out a fresh ball of yarn, and began winding from the inside, repeating in an undertone, “Y fi sydd yn dirwyn pwy sydd yn dal,” and so on. Should she continue winding *without* seeing her favourite lover (who should take up the thread of her yarn and story), it was a certain sign she was to die an old maid. *Teisen naw rhyw* is a cake made of nine different ingredients, salt predominating, so as to produce thirst. The whole of the cake must be eaten, and in silence. The anxious one has to go to bed backwards, not speaking to any one. Her future husband is sure to bring her a drink in her happy dreams. *The Linen test* is another favourite experiment. The anxious one washes her apron, neckerchief, or anything else, puts it to dry by the fire at midnight, and then watches alone. Before the half hour after twelve her lover will walk in and turn the

garment. She is then certain who he is to be. Many who have watched, and are this day enjoying single blessedness, say they saw a coffin go right through the kitchen. This is a bad omen indeed, as the object of their affections will surely die. *A Suspended Ring* is a Shropshire charm. A single hair is taken from the “inquirer's” head, and a borrowed wedding ring suspended from it over a clear glass of water. The ring is held steadily (?), questions are asked; if it touches the edge of the glass soon, it denotes an early marriage; two knocks in succession mean being married twice; if the vibration is rather sluggish it means a long and doubtful courtship. *To know the position of the future husband*, an egg is broken into a glass of clear water, retaining the yolk in the shell. The way the albumen takes in the water is then watched. It signifies, if very many pinnacles appear, that the future home will be in a large city. Heavier masses show he will be a contractor, or a tiller of the soil. When there are a great number of church spires or chimney tops, he will be a mechanic in a large city. SALOPIAN.

LAND TENURES IN WALES AND THE MARCHES.—INCLOSURE ACTS.—As an illustration of how the ancient commonable rights of the people of Wales have been extinguished during the reign of Her Majesty, perhaps the annexed list of Inclosure Acts may be of interest to readers of *Bye-Gones*. I came across them in searching for some that I myself wanted to examine. If they are published in *Bye-Gones* column they may be useful to persons in the respective districts for future reference. As I am not acquainted with every locality, I may have named a few perhaps that ought not to be included.

Abergwilly	14 15	Vic. c.	2
Abernant	28-29	“	20
Aston	19 20	“	106
Asterton	15-16	“	2
Bettws-gwerfl-goch	26-27	“	39
and 28 29	“	“	39
Bettws Hills	15 16	“	2
Bleanpenal	14-15	“	2
Boughrood and Llanstephan	23 24	“	17
Bronllys Commonable Fields	23-24	“	17
Bryn Postig Hill	18 19	“	61
Caerhyn	13-14	“	8
Cefn Ertham Common	12 13	“	7
Cefnlllys	28-29	“	20
Cellan Mountain	14-15	“	2
Ceulan-y-Maesmawr and Llanccynfelyn	25 26	“	94
Cerrygdrudion	16-17	“	120
Churchstoke	11-12	“	27
Clocaenog	15-16	“	2
Clunbury Hill	22	“	3
Clwyd	15-16	“	2
Coedpenmain	20-21	“	20
Craigbyther	12 13	“	57
Discoed Hill	11-12	“	109
Efenechtyd	15 16	“	2
Garthbregy Common	24-25	“	38
Glynbrochan	19-20	“	106
Glyngynwyd	19 20	“	106
Gyflyliog	15-16	“	2
Henallt Common	18-19	“	61
Holyhead	22-23	“	47
Hurdley	11-12	“	27
Hyssington	11-12	“	27

Iscoed	14 15	Vic. c.	94
Knighiton	16-17	" "	120
Lampeter-pont-Stephen	17 18	" "	9
Langan	18-19	" "	14
Llanbeder-y-cenin	13-14	" "	8
Llancynfelyn (see Ceulan-y-Maesmawr)			
Llandew Common... ..	24-25	" "	38
Llandefailog	21-22	" "	8
Llandewi-brefi	26-27	" "	39
Llanellidan	15-16	" "	2
Llangwm	26 27	" "	39
Lladwebante (?)	28 29	" "	20
Llanfaieddyfryn	15-16	" "	2
Llanfair Mountain	16-17	" "	120
Llanfechell Mountain	25-26	" "	47
Llanfihangel fechan	24-25	" "	38
Llanfihangel-geneu'r-Glyn	25-26	" "	94
Llanfihangel-glyn-Myfyr	26-27	" "	39
Llanfihangel Rhydithon... ..	24-25	" "	38
Llanfihangel yeroth	16-17	" "	120
Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn and Gwnws... ..	23-24	" "	17
Llanganten	18-19	" "	61
Llangeitho Common	19-20	" "	106
Llangeler, Penboyr, and Krehedin	28-29	" "	39
Llanteague Common	19 20	" "	11
Llanllugan Manor... ..	16 17	" "	3
Llanycrwys... ..	13-14	" "	66
Llysfaen	26-27	" "	18
Llyswen Common and Commonable fields	19 20	" "	106
Maisemore	29-30	" "	29
Meliden	26 27	" "	18
Merthyr Cynog	24-25	" "	38
Mynydd Bodafon	29-30	" "	94
Mynyddfernach	19 20	" "	106
Nantwnlle	13 14	" "	66
Nantglyn	15-16	" "	2
Norbury Hill	10 11	" "	25
Norton (Radnor)	27 28	" "	1
Pencarreg	13 14	" "	66
Radnor Forest	24 25	" "	38
Rhandir-issa	22	" "	3
Rhos-y-Gad Common	27 28	" "	17
Rhosygarth... ..	21-22	" "	61
Rhysillyn	26-27	" "	39
Ruthin	15-16	" "	2
Saint Davids	26 27	" "	18
Saint Harmon	12 13	" "	57
Sarnau Common	23-24	" "	55
Scybor-y-coed	25-26	" "	94
Swydd Neithion	25 26	" "	94
Talachddu	24-25	" "	38
Talwen Common	24 25	" "	38
Talyvan	19-20	" "	11
Ugre	23-24	" "	55
Wauunmeirws	15 16	" "	2
Wentnor	10 11	" "	25
Winfrith	18-19	" "	14
Ywchcoed	26-27	" "	39

PEARMAN.

MR. MYTTON'S RENT ROLL FOR 1787.

By the kindness of the Rev. C. H. Drinkwater we are able to publish the rent roll of Mr Mytton's estates in Merionethshire and Shropshire exactly a hundred years ago. The rents were due at "Candlemas" (Feb. 2) and "Lammas" (Aug. 1) on the Shrewsbury and Habberley estates; but for the small tenements in the manors of Monk-Meol and Bicton they were paid yearly on Lady

Day. On the Halston estate all the rents were due half-yearly at Lady Day and Michaelmas; and in Merionethshire the rents were paid yearly, part of them at Lady Day and part at Michaelmas. The total rental of the Shrewsbury estate was £1,667 10s., and the arrears at "Candlemas, 1787" amounted to £486 13s. 1½d. The rents of the Small Tenements in "the Manors of Monk-Meol and Bicton," paid yearly on Lady Day, were £62 16s. 6d., and the arrears on Lady Day, £62 4s. 11½d. The Habberley rental was £464, and £147 14s. 3½d. was due in arrears at Candlemas. The rental of the Halston estate was £1,775 12s., and £331 11s. 3½d. is put down for arrears at Lady Day. The Merionethshire rental was £534 2s. 11d., and the arrears were £126 19s. 11d. Thus the total rental of the estates was £4,504 ls. 5d. The rent roll preserves for us interesting place-names, and in the case of the Manor of Mowddwy, presents a list of the householders which may be usefully recorded in this column, where we propose to give that Manor first. A column is left for observations, and where they are of interest, we place them in brackets under the holding to which they refer. Ed.

THE MANOR OF MOWDDWY, IN THE COUNTY OF MERIONETH.

MALLWYD PARISH.

DINAS TOWNSHIP.

Tenants.	Holdings.	A Year's Rent, due Lady Day,	
		1787.	£ s. d.
On hand—Plas yn Dinas and land.....		0	0 0
Hugh Rowland—A house and garden		1	5 0
Hugh David—Mowddwy Arms Inn and land...		30	0 0
Margt. Jones, widw.—A house, garden, and stable		1	17 6
Lewis Rowland—A parcel of land taken out of the Park.....		0	10 0
John Lewis—A house and garden		1	10 0
John Richd. William—A house and land.....		1	12 6
Willm. Rowland—A house called Wyle Cop ... Do. Pen y Croft		0	16 0
Hugh Evan—Cae Gwyn and Lower Park		1	1 0
Evan Thomas, late Thos. John Richard—The Park and Cae yr Ddiog		8	0 0
Ishmael Thomas—A cottage and garden at Minllan		0	14 0
Wm. & Evan Hugh—Frydd y Gilcwm		45	0 0

CERIST TOWNSHIP.

Lewis Edwards & John Rowland—Brondyrion Farm

20 0 0
[Edwd. Lewis, son of Lewis Edward, is tenant with his father instead of John Rowland.]

CAMLAN TOWNSHIP.

John Vaughan—Maes Camlan and Brandy Farms 40 0 0
[27th Nov., 1787.—Mr. Probert consented that Evan Jones's name is to be entd. for the Brandy Farm at £14 a year, and John Vaughan for Maes Camlan at £30 a year. Vaughan is to be allowed £3 a year for lime, and £1 a year for fencing for 4 years.]

The Revd. Mr. Morgan—A piece of land, part of Do., called Cae Fynnon	1	10	0
Rowd. Williams—Mallwyd Weir, & the Tolls & Estrays, with two fields near Plas yn Dinas	15	0	0
Jane Rowland—Cae Battin	10	10	0
David Rowland—Mill and land	10	5	0
Do. Frydd fach & Cae Felyn	1	15	0

GARTHEINIOG TOWNSHIP.		£	s.	d.
Athelustan Vaughan—Abermynech Farm		21	0	0
David Hugh & David Jones—Frydd Gartheiniog		35	0	0
Mary Hughes—Cefn Gwyn		14	0	0
LLANYMOWDDWY PARISH.				
PENNANT TOWNSHIP.				
John Jones—Penant Bychan Farm.....		55	0	0
[Mr. Griff. Jones of Llwyngwillion became tenant at L. Day, 1787.]				
Evan Edwards—Pant y Cachu		10	0	0
LLANERCHFYDA TOWNSHIP.				
Hugh Robert—Ty'n y Frydd, Braich y Frydd, & Cwnterllidie		45	0	0
Thos. John David—A house in Llanymowddy		0	1	0
Evan Morris—Ty'n y Celyn and Nant yr Onog		15	0	0
Mary Jones—Braich y Nant		6	0	0
COWARCH TOWNSHIP.				
Francis Rowland—Pen y Cae.....		3	0	0
David Evans—Sarn Newydd		18	0	0
Elizabeth Jones—A quillet of land.....		0	6	0
Cadr. John Owen—Bryn y Celyn		6	0	0
Robert David—Ty'n y Coed		10	10	0
CWMCEWYDD TOWNSHIP.				
Robert Jones—Bwlch Coedog		20	0	0
James Mills—Fron Goch		12	0	0
John Thomas—Esgair Adda.....		9	0	0

SMALL TENEMENTS.

DINAS TOWNSHIP.

*A Year's Rent
due Lady Day,
1787.*

Tenants. *Holdings.*

	£	s.	d.
John Daniel—A cottage and garden at Minllan	0	5	0
Wm. Hugh by Mary Jones Do. Do.	0	1	0
Thos. Rowland by Owen Rowland Do. Do.	0	1	0
Hugh Hughes by Wilm. Pugh Do. Do.	0	1	2
John Evans Do. Do.	0	0	7
James David Do. Do.	0	1	0
Edward Williams—A garden at Minllan, with a house lately erected.....	0	1	0
Richd. Rowland—A cottage and garden at Minllan	0	1	2
John Edwards, by David Ingram—A cottage at Penrhiw	0	1	2
CERIST TOWNSHIP.			
Lewis Rowland—A cottage and garden at Pentrebach	0	1	2
Ann Evans—A cottage and garden at Pentrebach.....	0	2	6
John David—A cottage and garden at Pentrebach.....	0	1	0
Robt. William—A cottage and garden at Doly-Gellynon.....	0	1	2
Rowland Jones—A cottage and garden at Mainllwyd	0	1	0

GAMLAN TOWNSHIP.

Thomas Roberts, by Margt. Roberts—A cottage and garden at Terrion	0	1	2
Richard John—A cottage and garden at Winllan	0	1	0
Richd. Humphrey Do. at Clippie	0	2	2
Gwen Jones, wid'w Do. Do.	0	1	2
Hannah Morris Do. Do.	0	1	0
John Richard Do. Do.	0	0	6
Griffith Jones—An Inclosure Do. Do.	0	0	6
Evan John Morgan—A cottage and garden at Clippie	0	1	0

NANTMYNECH TOWNSHIP.		£	s.	d.
David Rowland—A cottage and garden at Aberdunant		0	0	6
DUGOED TOWNSHIP.				
Lewis Jones, by Evan William & Lowry Williams—A cottage and garden at Groes Llwyd		0	1	0
Gwen Jones Do. Do.		0	1	2
MALLWYD TOWNSHIP.				
Miss M. Vaughan, by Richd. Williams—A cottage and garden		0	1	0
PENNANT TOWNSHIP.				
Eliz'th. Owen, wid'w, and Griffith Jones, her son—A cottage in two dwellings and a garden at Nant-y-bitfel		0	1	0
LLANERFYDA TOWNSHIP.				
Mary John Hugh, by Morris David—A cottage in two dwellings and a garden at Llany-mowddwy		0	1	0
Rowland Griffiths—A cottage at Llany-mowddwy		0	1	0
Evan David, by Wm. Thomas—A cottage and garden at Wern		0	1	2
Thomas Rowland—A cottage and garden at Ty'n-y-Settin		0	0	6
COWARCH TOWNSHIP.				
Thomas Evan—a cottage and garden at Ty'n-y-Clawdd		0	1	2
Thomas David—A cottage and garden at Tal Pont Cowarch		0	1	0

£1 18 11

CHIEF AND FEE FARM RENTS IN THE MANOR OF MOWDDWY.

MALLWYD PARISH.

DINAS TOWNSHIP.

*A Year's Rent
due Mich'as,
1787.*

<i>Landlords.</i>	<i>Occupiers.</i>	<i>Messuages, &c.</i>	£	s.	d.
Rees David, Thomas Jones—A House in Dinas			0	1	0
Do. Thomas Rowland Do.			0	1	0
Sir W. W. Wynne, Howell Rees—The Goat Inn			0	1	6
Wilm. Vaughan, Esq., Richard Rowland—Pen Issa Dre.....			0	2	0
Robert Hugh, Robert Hugh—A House in Dinas			0	1	0
Robert David, John Edwards Do.			0	0	10
Mary Humphreys, John Owen Do.			0	2	6
Do. John Robert Do.			0	2	0
Mr Wilm. Anwyl, Elizth. William Do.			0	2	9
Griffith Jones, Thomas Jones Do.			0	1	0
Thomas Williams, William David Do.			0	0	6
Wilm. Vaughan, Esq., Hugh Evans—The Blue Lion.....			0	3	4
Elizabeth Jones, John William—Ty Coch			0	2	0
Morgan Jones, Evan Jones—Blue Bell.			0	2	6
Richard Wynne, Blauch Edwards, w'o—Pen-y-Geulan			0	1	0
CERIST TOWNSHIP.					
William Wynne, Esq., Rowland Hugh—Mawnog Ucha.....			0	8	0
Wilm. Vaughan, Esq., Hugh Rowland—Maes-y-Glogwintre.....			0	6	3
Mr G. Vaughan, Evan David—Hafod Wyon...			0	1	4
Mr R. Williams, Howell Rees, Edwd. Evan, and Thomas Jones—Park.....			0	6	6

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Mr R. Williams, Wm. David, late David Williams—Ty'n-y-Pwll.....	0 6 6	Sir W. W. Wynne, Mary Lloyd, wid'w—Cae Gwillion.....	0 8 1
Mrs Nanney, William Rowland—Ty Du.....	0 5 4	Willm. Vaughan, Esq., Richard Griffiths—Cwrn Wrach.....	0 2 6
Do. William Jones—Rhynie.....	0 3 2	Willm. Vaughan, Esq., Howell Rees—Tan-y-Bwll.....	0 6 6
Do. David Ellis—Mawnog Issa.....	0 3 8	Lewis Nanney, Esq., Hugh Jones—Ty Hen ...	0 11 3
John Mytton, Esq., Lewis Edward—Brondyriou	0 0 0	Do. Jno. Evans and Evan Jones—Cwm-yr-Haidd.....	0 11 9
Mrs Nanney, Cath. Richard—Bryn Ceryst, Ty'n-y-Ceunant, and Gwern Llygoden.....	0 8 0	David Jones, John Cadwallader—Gloddfa Goch	0 1 0
David Jones, William David—Dol Abram.....	0 4 2	Mr William Anwyl, Evan Edward—Gelly-Ddolen.....	0 10 0
Robert David, Evan Thomas—Braichme'yn ...	0 2 2	John Jones, said John Jones—Nant-yr-Hedidd	0 6 0
CAMLAN TOWNSHIP.		John Thomas, Thomas Jones—Maes-yr-Allt	
William Wynne, Esq., Hugh Jones—Pennant Igin Issa.....	0 13 4	Ddu.....	0 3 0
William Wynne, Robert David—Pentrewern...	0 6 4	Evan Owen, said Evan Owen—Pen Craig.....	0 10 11
William Chambre, Esq., Rowland Evan—Gwas-tagod.....	0 4 0	MALLWYD TOWNSHIP.	
William Chambre, Esq., Rowland Evan—Aber-dwy Afon.....	0 2 0	Watkin Williams, Esq., David Lloyd—Ty Tafarn.....	0 6 10
William Chambre, Esq., John Ellis—Pen-y-Pentre.....	0 1 0	Do. John Jones—Cunant.....	0 10 0
William Chambre, Esq., Owen Evan—Abermynech.....	0 1 4	Do. David Hugh—Tyucha.....	0 14 8
Watkin Williams, Evan Pugh—Bron Camlan	0 9 4	Rev. Mr. Nanney, David Rowland—Tymawr...	0 10 8
Mr Griffith Howell, Jane Davies—Camlan Issa and Croft ...	0 17 8	Sir W. W. Wynne, Maurice Morris—Gwelinion	0 10 0
Mr Griffith Howell, Hugh Edward—Camlan Ganol.....	0 8 2	Mr Richd. Wynne, Owen Jones—Plâs ucha...	0 4 2
Mr Griffith Howell, Humphrey Howell—Camlan Ucha.....	0 8 2	John Thomas Evans, said John Thomas—Ty'nyfedw.....	0 6 0
Evan Rowland, said Evan—Byrieth.....	0 1 4	LLANY MOWDDWY PARISH.	
Parish of Mallowd, Hugh Edward, Dol-y-Tolodion.....	0 4 0	PENNANT TOWNSHIP.	
Mr William Anwyl, Evan Griffiths—Brain Llwyd.....	0 6 8	Rev. Price Maurice, John Edward—Bryn.....	0 12 5
Lewis Nanney, Esq., Hugh Evan—Maes Glâs	0 0 8	Eliz. Jones, Llewelyn Thomas—Ty'ny Llwyn	0 12 6
NANTMYNECH TOWNSHIP.		John Jones, of Black Hall, Esq., Griffith Ellis—Peny Gelli.....	0 6 8
Lewis Rowld. Parry, Rees David—Ty Mawr...	0 7 0	Do. Hugh Jones and Evan Jno. Thomas—Troedyfoel.....	0 6 8
Mary Humphreys, w.o., Edward Lloyd—Maes Glâs and Cae'r Dole.....	0 15 4	Do. Thomas John Ellis—Caer Ddyn.....	0 14 2
John Jones, said John Jones—Croft Ithel.....	0 10 0	Do. William Rowland—Llechw-dd.....	0 4 4
Lewis Nanney, Esq., John Rowland—Llwyn Cry'r.....	0 14 4	Do. Griffith William—Tyny Ddole & Aber Rhiwleek.....	0 11 3
Robert Evan, John Richard—Ty'n-y-Braich ...	0 4 4	Do. Thomas Hugh—Rhiwleek.....	0 1 8
Do. Ann Evan—Tyddyn Ucha.....	0 3 4	Do. David Evans, late Evan Rowland—Ty Cerrig.....	0 3 0
Richard Williams, Hugh Edwards, late William Jones—Blaen-y-Cwm.....	1 2 8	Do. Morgan Jones—Morfa and Rhôs Duppa.....	0 12 0
John Parry, John Parry—Brithdir Coch.....	0 5 8	Do. Evan John Thomas—Gilrhydd... ..	0 2 6
GARTHEINIOG TOWNSHIP.		Lewis Nanney, Esq., Thomas Hugh—Tymawr	0 4 3
Mr Humphrey Owen, Humphrey Hugh—Maes-y-Gaafa.....	0 11 0	Do. Griffith Jones—Lledfron.....	0 3 0
Mr Richard Wynne, Humphrey Hugh—Tal-y-Mewryn.....	0 10 0	David Evan, late Evan Rowland, said David—Ty'ny Nant.....	0 1 0
Sir W. W. Wynne, Evan Owen—Hendre Ddu	0 10 6	Clopton Phrys, Esq., and Oliver Pugh, John Price—Aberhriwleek.....	0 5 8
Do. Morris Evan—Hafod.....	0 10 2	John Mytton, Esq., John Edward—Panty Cachu.....	0 0 0
William Chambre, Esq., Rowland Richard—Escair Angel.....	0 15 8	LLANERCHFYDA TOWNSHIP.	
DUGOED TOWNSHIP.		Rev. Price Maurice, Hugh Thomas—Trawsder and house ..	0 13 4
Mr Richard Wynne, Rowland Hugh—Dafarn Newydd.....	0 1 0	Mary Humphreys, Wo., Rowland John—Cwmterllidie... ..	0 3 4
Watkin Williams, Esq., John Rowland—Cae'r Scubor Fawr, Cae'r Crythen, and Ty'n-y-Dugoed.....	4 13 0	Do. David Jones—Escair y Cwm.....	0 1 10
Watkin Williams, Esq., William Rees—Dugoed Bach.....	0 10 0	Do. Thomas Robert—Plas y Gwinion, Ty Poeth, Tyissa and Tyny Nant.....	1 10 0
Watkin Williams, Esq., John David—Erw Hir	0 1 6	Edward Jones, Cath. Robert, widow of Hugh David—Llanerchfyda.....	0 15 0
Sir W. W. Wynne, Mary Edwards—Dugoed Mawr.....	0 16 8	Lewis Nanney, Esq., Rowland Davies—Tany-Llwyn.....	0 10 0

	£	s.	d.
Lewis Nanney, Esq., John David—Tyyny			
Ceunant	1	0	0
Jno. Dashd. King, Esq., Rowld. John David—			
Ty'ny Simney	0	6	3
Richd. Jones, Esq., Lewis David—Coed Cae			
& Erw Fwly Calch	0	12	4
Do. William Thomas—Llechwedd	0	6	2

COWARCH TOWNSHIP.

Sir W. W. Wynne, Richard Griffiths—Tan y			
Bwlch	0	8	4
Do. Griffith David—Pen y Bont	0	4	0
Do. Thomas David—Maesy-			
bendyn	0	4	4
Do. John Rees—Blain Cowarch	1	0	10
Do. David Thomas—Maes			
Eglwys, Ty'ny Simney, Ty'ny			
Ceunant, Rwngh y Ddu Nant			
and Glan yr Afon	1	1	2
Do. John Edward—Ty'ny Twll	0	6	8
Do. Roger Richard—Bryn Sion			
& Cae'r ys Thomas	0	9	8
Do. John Thomas—Nant y			
Nicholen als, Nant Nulan	0	10	8
Do. John Ellis—Nant Nodyn			
and Bedw Gwision	0	12	7

Rowland Richard, Rowland Jones—Ty Gwynne	0	2	6
Catharine Thomas, Richard William—Ty'ny-			
wern	0	2	0
Evan Richard, David Jones—Dûnant bach.....	0	5	5
Edward Richard, Ellis Jones—Ty'ny Ddôl.....	0	5	5
Rev. Mr Tamberlain, Evan Richard—Ty'ny			
Berth	0	1	10
Jno. Dashd. King, Esq., Elizabeth Jones—			
Nant yr Henfaes	0	1	6
Lewis Nanney, Esq., Rees Jones—Bryn Glâs...	0	12	11
Do. Thomas Owen—Cae Paris	0	8	4
William Vaughan, John Richards—Pant y			
Maes	0	0	9
David Evans, said David—Perthfelyn	0	15	0
Mary Humphreys, Wo., Evan Richards and			
Mary Rowland—Ceunant	0	13	4
Do. David Ellis, Gassel isea and			
ucha			
Do. David Richard—Penrhyn...	1	2	0
Do. David Thomas—Pontfaen...			
Do. John Griffiths—Ty'n y			
Fedw			

Evan Owen, Catherine Jones—Terwyn	0	6	6
Edward Lloyd, William Evan—Pen y Bryn,			
Maes y Pandy, and Caerdintre	1	5	0
Evan Richards, Mary Richard—Dunantfawr	0	4	10

CWMCEWYDD TOWNSHIP.

Lewis Nanney, Esq., Jos. late Thomas Owen—			
Groes Llwyd	0	2	0
Do. Evan Jones—Llwyn Glâs	0	14	1
Humphrey Jones, Ellis Jones—Pant Glâs	0	5	3
Wm. Vaughan, Esq., Wm. Richard—Bwlch			
Pant Clyd ucha and Do. issa	1	0	7
Edward Morgan, said Edward—Doly Brad-			
maeth	0	1	0
Owen Thomas, Thomas Evans—Hendre issa...	0	3	0
Watkin Williams, Esq., John Williams, Caer Go	0	5	6
John Probert, Hugh Rees—Gellifraith	0	1	8
John Thos. Evan, said John—Castell y Braidd	0	4	3

£53 1 0

(To be Continued.)

QUERIES.

VORD GRON.—In the account of the late Ceiriog reference is made to his connection with the Vord Gron. Can any of your correspondents give further particulars as to the proposed society, what Ceiriog's objects were in getting it up, and who were associated with him in promoting it? EDERNION.

JUBILEE.—I see from your accounts of the Jubilee that the celebration of George the Third's Jubilee took place in Shropshire and throughout the country at the beginning of the fiftieth year of his reign, whereas the celebrations of Her Majesty Queen Victoria's Jubilee took place at the close. This is more of a general than a local question, but it would be interesting to know the reasons for the difference in the time, and which of the two is correct? BONWM.

REPLIES.

THE REV. JOHN KENRICK (June 29, 1887).—MENTMORE is quite correct in saying that the Rev. John Kenrick of York was a son of the Rev. Timothy Kenrick of Exeter, and was in no way descended from Philip Henry. It was only the children of Timothy's brother John who could call Philip Henry their forefather. MENTMORE has himself made a slip in speaking of the Rev. John Kenrick of Wrexham (Timothy's grandfather) as having been born at Wynn Hall. This Mr Kenrick's sole connection with Wynn Hall arose through his marriage with Sarah Hamilton, the heiress of that place. If "The History of the Older Nonconformity of Wrexham," on which I am now engaged, should ever see the light, it will be found to contain quite a mass of curious particulars relating to the Kenrick family.

Wrexham.

ALFRED N. PALMER.

In reply to your correspondent MENTMORE, I write to say that he is quite correct in his belief that the Rev. John Kenrick of York was the son of the Rev. Timothy Kenrick of Exeter, and I believe his only connection with the Henry family was through the marriage of his uncle, John Kenrick, of Wynn Hall, with Sarah Savage, great grand-daughter of Philip Henry. Mr John Kenrick of Wynn Hall died in 1823, and his only surviving descendant in the next generation is Mr Edward Kenrick of Hillsdale, Michigan, U.S. From a short memorial of the Rev. John Kenrick's life, by the Rev. James Martineau, it appears that his step-mother was Miss Elizabeth Belsham, sister of the Rev. T. Belsham, of Daventry, and Hackney. M.

CURRENT NOTES.

A handsome pile of new buildings, called the "Canterbury Buildings," which have been added to St. David's College, Lampeter, was formally opened a few days ago.

Forty carts with barrels have been traversing the town of Swansea daily, and supplying the inhabitants with water. The reservoirs had completely failed, and the water was procured from disused mines and old wells. Much privation has been suffered by the inhabitants. Hundreds of workmen have been discharged in the Rhondda Valley and other industrial districts in consequence of the failure of the water supply at Swansea.

By the will of the late Mr William Slaney Lewis, of Mossy Green, near Wellington, who died on June 10th, several Birmingham charities become entitled to the legacy of £250 each. The Wolverhampton Orphanage also takes a similar legacy of £250, and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution a legacy of £500. The Salop Infirmary gets £500, the Shrewsbury Eye and Ear Hospital £250, and the Wellington Dispensary £109. All the legacies are payable duty free.

Mr W. Murray Clarke, Hendregyda, Abergelle, the agent, for over thirty years, of the estates of Mr H. R. Hughes, of Kinnel, lord lieutenant of Flintshire, died suddenly last week. Mr Clarke, who was a native of Dumfriesshire, N.B., was vice-chairman of St. Asaph Board of Guardians, chairman of the Abergelle Burial Board and Highway Board, and for many years chairman of the Abergelle and Pensarn Local Board. He was very much respected.

Mr John Francis, auctioneer, of Carmarthen, offered for sale at Llanybyther, on Thursday, large freehold estates, including nearly the whole town itself, in the counties of Carmarthen and Cardigan. There was a large attendance, and the bidding for most of the 135 lots of houses, farms, and lands, was brisk. The prices realised were exceptionally good—very much over the reserve, and averaged thirty-four years' purchase on the present rentals, some lots going so far as sixty to seventy years' purchase. The tenants were the purchasers in many instances.

Amongst the papers in *The Quiver* this month is one on Divining Rods, to which references have appeared in *Bye-Gones*, by C. F. Gordon Cumming. Remarkable instances of the successful use of the rod are mentioned, including this:—

One of the most recent triumphs of the divining rod in Britain has been at the Avonmouth Docks. The company owning the Docks having received an intimation that an American company proposed establishing a sugar factory near the Docks provided a good water-supply could be secured, a certain Mr Lawrence—who has the reputation of considerable success as a water-finder—was engaged to examine the neighbouring ground. In this case the rod employed was a piece of spring steel, which was bent to the shape of a horse-shoe, as the searcher, holding his elbows close to his sides, began to walk slowly over the field. After a while the steel became so violently agitated, and twisted itself with such force, that one of Mr Lawrence's fingers was cut! He directed the company to commence boring at the spot thus indicated by the shedding of his blood, and the work was accordingly commenced. At the depth of 107 feet water was struck, and has since flowed at the rate of a thousand gallons per hour.

The annual excursion of the Chester Society of Natural Science was held on Friday, June 24, when nearly fifty members were conveyed to Llanwddyn, via Bala. On nearing the waterworks the party were met by Mr Deacon, the chief engineer of the works, who most courteously placed a train at the disposal of the party, whom he conducted personally over the quarry and works, explaining everything in a most full and able manner. His efforts to make the visit agreeable, profitable, and instructive were fully augmented by those of Professor McKenna Hughes, who gave an admirable resumé of the geology of the district. A very fine collection of fossils was also explained to the party by Mr Deacon and his assistant engineers. The return journey was made by way of the pass of Bwlch-y-Groes (the pass of the Cross). The scenery of the neighbourhood hereabouts is fine, and the elevation of the summit of the pass was noted to be 50 feet above sea level. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr Deacon, Professor McKenna Hughes, and Mr T. Ruddy, of Palé, for their services as leaders of the party.

The ruins of Strata Florida Abbey are now being excavated by Mr Stephen W. Williams, F.R.I.B.A., Rhayader, Radnorshire, who is to contribute a paper thereon to the next annual meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Society. The Abbey was burnt down during the wars between Edward the First and the Welsh, and subsequently re-built. It appears to have flourished until the dissolution of the monasteries in the reign of Henry the Eighth, when it gradually fell into ruin, and all that now remains above ground is a fragment of the north transept wall, a portion of the west wall of the nave, with the great western doorway, and the west window of the south aisle. Mr Williams has already uncovered most of the foundations of the Abbey Church, so as to ascertain with accuracy the plan of the building, and during the progress of excavation has discovered many interesting fragments of moulded stonework, encaustic and glazed tile pavements, the piers of the nave, the piers of the great central tower, and the eastern chapels of the north and south transepts. It is hoped that funds will be forthcoming to clear the entire area, since there is little doubt if this were done many most interesting facts would be elucidated, as it was for several centuries the burial place of the princes of Wales.

The fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Grand Junction line through Crewe was celebrated at Crewe on Monday with considerable rejoicings. The employés of the London and North-Western Railway either had a day's holiday or (in the case of those compelled to work) an extra day's wages. A procession, with Sir Richard Moon and the directors of the railway company, walked through the town, all the railway employés wearing medals specially struck, containing a portrait of the Queen on the one side and a representation of the 3,000th engine produced in Crewe works on the reverse. Sir R. Moon received the freedom of the borough, and handed over the Queen's Park, the gift of the railway company, to Crewe. The directors of the railway company, while the procession was perambulating a portion of the town, entertained a large number of ladies and gentlemen at the drawing office. Sir R. Moon presided. Lord Powis was also present, and he proposed "Prosperity to the London and North-Western Railway Company," and said as one who had travelled in the old coach days, he could appreciate the ease and comfort of the present railway system. The development of railways had contributed materially to the prosperity of the country and to the welfare of the people, and in that development the London and North-Western Railway had played an important part. Sir R. Moon, in reply, said that 60 millions of passengers and 33 million tons of goods were carried annually over the London and North-Western Railway. They employed 60,000 persons, they had 50,000 wagons, 5,000 carriages, 3,000 horses, 20 steamships, and 3,000 engines. The total mileage of their engines during the year was 54 million miles, or, in other words, they accomplished a distance equal to a journey round the world every four hours. He hoped that trade in the country would revive, and that peace would prevail.

THE LATE REV. FREDERICK HOTHAM.—The will has lately been proved of the Rev. Frederick Harry Hotham, late of Rushbury Rectory, Salop, who died on the 11th of April last. Among the bequests is one of £100 a year to the school at Rushbury, so long as it is not a Board School, to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, the Salop General Infirmary at Shrewsbury, the Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital at Shrewsbury, and the Clerical Charity in the Archdeaconry of Ludlow, each £100.

THE EARL OF POWIS.—*The County Gentleman* has published a photograph of the Earl of Powis, accompanied by the following notice:—"The Right Hon. Edward James Herbert, third Earl of Powis, who was born in 1818, was educated at Eton and at St. John's College, Cambridge. He represented North Shropshire in the Conservative interest from 1843 to 1848, when he succeeded to the Earldom upon the death of his father. Lord Powis is Lord-Lieutenant of Montgomeryshire, a Justice of the Peace of Salop, High Steward of Cambridge University, and Chairman of the Montgomeryshire Quarter Sessions. The grandfather of the subject of this sketch, better known as Lord Clive, was created Earl of Powis in consideration of his great military achievements. The second Earl, who was born in 1785, and represented Ludlow in the House of Commons till 1806, assumed, by Royal licence, the surname and arms of Herbert, and in 1844 was made a K.G. Lord Powis is unmarried, the heir-presumptive to the title and estates being his nephew George, second son of the late Lieut.-General the Right Honourable Sir Percy Egerton, K.C.B. The Earl of Powis farms largely at his seats—Powis Castle, Welshpool, Montgomeryshire, and Walcot, Lydbury North, Salop, and is much respected by his tenantry, in whose prosperity he takes great interest. Few men are better known in the Principality than the noble Earl, who is an excellent representative of the great landowners of Wales."

THE QUEEN SHOPPING AT WELSHPOOL.—When, in August, 1882, the Queen (then Princess Victoria) was at Powis Castle in company with Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent and Baroness Lutzen, they visited and made purchases at the shop of the late Mr. T. Morris, father of Mr Thomas Morris, auctioneer. The following is a copy of the day book now in the possession of Mr Morris. The day of the purchase was August 3rd:—



London House,
Welshpool.
Bot. of THOMAS MORRIS,
Draper, Mercer, Hosier, and Haberdasher, &c.
By Appointment
Draper to the Queen. Interest charged on all accounts not paid at Christmas.

Copy from Day Book.

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Friday, August 3rd, 1882.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent.

pd. 12 yds Supr. Welsh Flannel, 3s 9d	2	5	0
6 pr Hbts. Fancy Kid, 21d	0	10	6
12 pr Do White Kid, 2s 3d	1	7	0
	4	2	6

Her Royal Highness Princess Victoria.

pd. 12 yds Supr. Welsh Flannel, 3s 9d	2	5	0
2 pr Hbts. Col'd Kid, 14d	0	2	4
	2	7	4

Baroness Lutzen.

pd. 3 pr Lace Clock Silk Hose, 8s	1	4	0
6 pr Habits Fancy Kid, 2s 6d	0	15	0
	1	19	0

IN THE FIELDS AND LANES.

As I was walking on the road between Meifod and Llansantffraid, on the 20th of June, I found a dead snake 35 inches long. Is not this rather an unusual length for an English snake?

T.W.

The other day, near Escob Mill, I saw a blackbird attacking a frog, trying several times to lift it from the road; but it was too heavy and he had to leave it, after pecking at the poor frog savagely. H.M.H.

July 4. It has rained to-day—but, alas, all too short a shower—for the first time since the 8th of June, a month all but two days. This is not an unusually long drought, but the great heat has dried the springs and parched the ground, which had already been dried up by the east winds of May. With all its drawbacks, what a pleasant month it has been! We shall long remember Jubilee June, as the finest we have had for many years. E.

I am not familiar with the notes of birds, but I have noticed this summer that one bird seems much more plentiful than usual. The note is continuous, very monotonous, and somewhat irritating. In size I should think the bird is between a sparrow and a thrush. Perhaps, from this imperfect description, TANTARA, or another, can say what the visitant is, and whether I am right in thinking he has come in larger numbers than in most other years. E.

Mr Wolley Dod, Edge Hall, Malpas, writes to *The Field*:—"On turning to Gould's account of the common buzzard, I am surprised to find it spoken of as almost exclusively a frequenter of woods, and as now almost, if not quite, extinct. I remember as a boy having seen buzzards in wooded countries, but for the last thirty years my acquaintance with it has been almost exclusively as a bird frequenting treeless mountains. I have spent many a day in the less frequented parts of the Carnarvonshire mountains, and have hardly ever failed in such rambles to meet with two or three pairs of buzzards. In late summer and autumn they soar about repeating a shrill cry, seldom approaching a man within three hundred yards; but my experience recently was quite different. On one of the wildest mountains of Merionethshire, I was resting on a steep slope, when I several times noticed a shadow cross me on the ground. I thought it was made by a peewit or a curlew, of which several had been flying nearly in my face for intruding near their young, when suddenly I was startled by a loud whiz behind me, and, looking round, saw a buzzard sailing upwards till he got a hundred yards or more over my head, when he continued sailing round in most graceful gyrations, sometimes hovering nearly motionless. In about a minute he moved, without descending, to about two hundred yards behind me, being then nearly against the mountain side; he then raised his wings till they were parallel with one another above his back, extended his legs and claws to their full stretch, and made a grand swoop—not in a direct line for me, but making one or two turns, the last dash being straight for my head. When he got, as near as I could judge, within ten yards at most, he raised his legs, lowered his wings, and soared upwards again. This manoeuvre was repeated ten or a dozen times, at intervals of a minute or two. Meanwhile I saw the hen bird flying about on the precipices three hundred yards off, but she did not take part in the demonstration. I saw the male bird distinctly when at his nearest approaches, and have no doubt that it was the common buzzard (*Buteo vulgaris*). He made no cry, but the noise of his swoop was almost terrific. As I moved away the same swoops were continued till I got about a quarter of a mile lower. They were always made from the same direction, against the wind, which was blowing a fresh breeze at the time. The descent was made at an angle of about forty-five degrees to the horizon. The bird appeared to come feet first, the outstretched legs being held exactly, as far as I could judge, in the line of descent. I have seen a falcon somewhere represents

exactly in the position, and am certain that the legs were extended before the descent began, and not thrown out during the descent. The mountain in question is not frequented by grouse, and it is to be hoped that these splendid birds will continue unmolested. I had no stick or implement of any kind with me, and it is possible that the bird was emboldened by this; but once or twice at his nearest point I might almost have touched him with a long salmon rod.

JULY 13, 1887.

NOTES.

BISHOP WILBERFORCE AND MR GLADSTONE AT PENMAENMAWR.—*Bye-Gones* has contained several allusions to Mr Gladstone's predilection for Penmaenmawr. In the diary of Bishop Wilberforce, under date August 31st, 1864, is an entry which is doubly interesting in that it records a little physical fact about the ex-Premier. The entry runs:—

Up betimes, wrote, a walk with Gladstone along ridge of stone quarries, and on the shoulder of Penmaenmawr mountain; curious to see his strong mind so unbend; his head easily giddy; cannot bear even the near approach to a precipice.

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

STRATA FLORIDA (June 6, 1887).—Observing a remark in the *Advertiser* in connection with excavations now in progress on the site of this Abbey, I should like to mention that two or three weeks ago I casually came across at the Record Office the reference to what I presume must be the earliest charters connected with this Establishment. Not having *Arch. Camb.* at hand to refer to, it is just possible both were printed in the account of Strata Florida which appeared in some of the early volumes of that journal, but there can be no harm done in recording in *Bye-Gones*, a reference that will enable any reader to see the originals when so disposed. They both passed in the first year of the reign of King John (1199), and are enrolled on Membrane 15, Numbers 97—98. They also are the first charters enrolled relating to Welsh Abbeys, so far as I could see by the Indices.

AN ANTIQUARY.

SIR JOHN WYNN'S HISTORY OF THE GWYDIR FAMILY.—At p. 61 (of Mr Askew Roberts's edition of this famous History) Sir John Wynn tells us that the murder of the Llanfrothen Parson was perpetrated at "Gogo yr Llechwin being now," as he adds, "a tenement of mine." To this is appended a note to the effect that "Gogo yr Llechwin," Llanfrothen, is identical with *Hir Ynys* in the same parish. Now, with the greatest deference I beg to submit that the note is misleading, and inconsistent with fact. Sir John Wynn was very familiar with Llanfrothen parish, and his "tenements" there, many of which bordered on the Traethmawr, the subject of his celebrated letter to Sir Hugh Myddelton in 1625 (p. 7 of same edition). A few hundred yards south-west of Moelwyn-bach is the farm, named on the Ordnance Map "Yr Ogog Llechwyn," to which Sir John Wynn referred, and which, about the year 1806, was sold by his descendant, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., to the late Rev. Simon Hart Wynn, of the Maesyneuadd Family. At the time

of the alienation the farm was known as "Gogo'r Llychwyn" and is now entered on the parish books as "Ogof Lluchgwyn." "*Hir Ynys*" is from 2 to 2½ miles S.W. of Gogo'r Llychwyn, and never belonged to Sir John Wynn. The "Cave of Crystal Spar," referred to in the note, is a comparatively modern quarry venture, and has no pretension whatever to be a natural cave.

BEN.

QUERIES.

OSWESTRY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—On the 17th September, 1635, an Inquisition was held at Oswestry, before the Bishop of St. Asaph, Sir Robert Eytton, Knight, and other gentlemen, to take evidence in connection with the property and management of this school. Has the evidence taken on that occasion ever been printed; if so, where might it be seen? MORDA.

OUT OF A BOOKE OF LORD POWYS.—Has the following singular document ever appeared in print? It may be found in Harl. MS., 1970, folio 94 (*pencil number*).—

"Out of a booke of Lo: Powys 1514 and the prophecy also wch. came true."

To Judge the truth as before hath byn
To judge we may all that shall byn
A.M CCCC LII and one

Theis thinges shall be doinge and also done.

There are 48 lines in the piece altogether.

BOOKWORM.

THE VALE OF IAL (June 22, 1887).—LLYWARCH HEN's interesting account of the Vale of Ial just shows how the spirit of the antiquary can be called from the dead when he wills to do so. But he should add something more to his paper about Ithel Felyn, son of Llewelyn of the Golden Torch; the Lloyds of Bodidris; Old Cyrus of Ial; and Richard Williams, rector of Llanferas, whose pen was so well used in enriching Pennant with information about North Wales. If your correspondent can explain why Rhodwy Castle was built by Owen Gwynedd, it is probable that this would lead us to comprehend more perfectly than we now do the true history of the ancient English aggressions upon that particular part of Wales. With Chester at their back as a place of safety, it is clear enough why they followed the sea coast between Chester and Conway, but it has always been a puzzle to find out Henry's motive for pushing his forces in the direction of Corwen, unless he knew of some safe method whereby he could march unharmed between Corwen and the Vale of Clwyd. Putting aside Castell Dinas Bran and Chirk, did not strong places exist between Dinas Bran and Ruthin? Assuming there were no such places in existence, did Rhodwy Castle stop the way, and place at the disposal of the Welsh a fortress that could be used with advantage in that part of the country? I hope LLYWARCH HEN will pardon me for troubling him with this note, but having derived much information from his paper, I follow the practice of our countrymen—*lle caffo Cymro cais*.

OLWENYDD.

REPLIES.

DANTE AT HARLECH (March 30, 1887).—Your correspondent GWENYDD, after saying that he "had heard it stated that Dante was once at Harlech," must be joking when he asks whether Dante inspired the Bardd Cwsg, or vice versa. Ellis Wynne, author of *Y Bardd Cwsg*, was born at Y Lasynys, near Harlech, in 1671. However, it would be interesting to know what authority there is for the belief which exists that Dante once visited Wales. It has been stated in *Bye-Gones* on the authority of an article on "Owen Glyndwr" in *Y Gwyddoniadur Cymreig*, that Dante was once the guest of Owen Glyndwr at Sycharth; but although your correspondent asked on what authority the writer of the article in *Y Gwyddoniadur* made the assertion, so far there has been no reply given. May I appeal through your columns to GWENYDD to state his authority for the statement that Dante visited Harlech; and also to Mr Gee, or the writer of the article in *Y Gwyddoniadur*, as to the alleged visit to Sycharth? TREWYN.

THE REV. JOHN KENRICK (July 6, 1887).—I am very much obliged to Mr PALMER, and "M." for their notes upon my former communications. Mr. PALMER says the Rev. John Kenrick of Wrexham married Sarah Hamilton, the heiress of Wynn Hall; but unless I am mistaken they were the great grand-parents of the John Kenrick "of Wynne Hall, County of Denbigh," who in 1781 married Sarah Savage. I make that statement, however, subject to Mr PALMER's correction, for, right or wrong, it is far better to have this point settled now, and I hope he will be good enough to see it done. Your correspondent "M." is evidently acquainted with the more modern descents of the Kenrick family. It was my privilege in my boyhood to know Samuel Savage Kenrick, son of John Kenrick, by Sarah Savage, and he told me all he knew about the then members of his family, one of whom had married George Lewis of Wrexham, a surgeon, and I should be glad to know if this gentleman was son to the celebrated George Lewis, an eminent Dissenting minister, and also *where*, and *when* he was born. According to Miss Lawrance, William Kenrick (son of John, by Sarah Savage) in 1836 married Sarah Edmundson, and they had two sons—William Wynne Kenrick, and John Kenrick. Can "M." say if the Henrys in that line have failed? MENTMORE.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Rev. B. L. S. Stanhope, rector of Byford, has been appointed Archdeacon of Hereford.

Three otters in the river Clwyd, near the Castle Farm, Ruthin, were hunted and killed on Wednesday.

The *Gardeners' Chronicle* publishes a description of the gardens at Penrhyn Castle, the seat of Lord Penrhyn.

Master Ellis Nanney, son of Mr H. J. Ellis Nanney, of Gwynfryn, and heir to the Gwynfryn estates, died at Bournemouth on Wednesday.

In the *Antiquary* for July (London: Elliot Stock) we find the following letter:

Can you tell me if any historic interest is connected with the English countryman's smock-frock? It is too ornamental and

picturesque to have been originated in the brain of a modern or of an ancient Briton. The pretty effect of the honeycombed yoke has not failed to catch the eye of the ladies who are using it so freely in their toilettes. I should be much obliged if you can let me have any light on the subject.

The question reminds us that the smock-frock, the common dress of the agricultural labourer in Shropshire when the present writer was a boy, is fast disappearing, like so many other costumes. Was it worn all over England thirty years ago, or only in Shropshire and two or three other counties? An interesting paper on Roger Bacon's "Cure of Old Age," a continuation of Mr Round's "Early Custody of Domesday Book," Mr Fea's "Old Storied Houses," and a biographical sketch of "John Hodgson, the Antiquary," by Mr E. Peacock, may be mentioned amongst the other contents of this periodical.

ELLESMERE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.—On Saturday, July 2, several members of the Ellesmere Natural History Society and Field Club went for an excursion to Colemere, the Black Coppice and Yetchleys and Hampton Bank Mosses. The Rev O. M. Feilden kindly conducted the party. Among the botanical specimens found were the beautiful round-leaved sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*) and the oblong sundew (*D. longifolia*), these are carnivorous plants. The marsh andromeda (*Andromeda polifolia*) was also found in full bloom, and the pretty bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*), besides a large number of more common plants. A very pleasant afternoon was spent.

MOUNTAIN FIRES IN NORTH WALES.

The great mountain fire which was discovered on the moors of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., at Penycæ, Ruabon, on Sunday week, was got under control on Thursday last. The fire had, however, taken deep root in the peat bog, and the high wind of Friday fanned the peat again into flames, and the fire spread with great rapidity. Several brakes containing workmen from Wynnstay and other places were at once despatched to the scene of the conflagration, but the smoke was so dense, and heat and sparks so powerful, that very little could be done. The workmen—between 300 and 400 in number—were engaged at the fire throughout Friday night, and all day on Saturday, many of the men being employed digging trenches on the outskirts, while others were beating out the flames. Relief gangs were engaged on Saturday night, and Sunday and Monday, when the operations were personally superintended by Sir Watkin Williams Wynn and Mr Owen Slaney Wynne. The fire was greatly increased on Monday by the strong winds, and had spread over seven or eight miles of mountain in the direction of Minera.

The fire was first discovered to have broken out in three different places on the mountain, near the residence of Mr Morrison, Sir Watkin's gamekeeper, and is supposed to be the work of incendiaries. A reward of £50 has therefore been offered for the apprehension of the offenders. Thousands of acres of meadowland, together with a large quantity of pasturage on the mountain sheep-walks have been burnt up. A great number of grouse, especially young birds, have also been destroyed. Some fifteen years ago a similar fire broke out on the Ruabon mountain and extended many miles. So extensive did the fire become that it was not extinguished for more than a month.

Our Ruabon correspondent telegraphed last night:—Several hundred workmen have been engaged throughout to-day on the grouse moors at Penycæ, where the mountain fires have burnt up everything before them for a distance of eight miles northwards. Gangs of labourers are employed beating out the flames and digging trenches day and night. Numerous huts are being erected on the mountains, where the workmen are now encamped, as some weeks must elapse before the fires are entirely extinguished. The destruction of game is unprecedented.

Soon after ten o'clock on Friday night a fire was seen on Llechwedd sheep walk, the property of Mr. Robertson, of Pale. One of the watchers perceiving it at a distance went immediately to the village and gave an alarm, when a large number of people quickly proceeded to the spot to extinguish it. There was a strong wind blowing at the time from the south east, the heather and the ground being so dry, it burnt furiously. Volumes of smoke and fire could be seen from a considerable distance, and it was soon found that it would not be a small task to subdue it. Fortunately, between 11 and 12 o'clock, a heavy shower of rain fell, which had the effect of slackening the fire, and with the combined efforts of the men it was subdued, after burning some four or five acres of land. Had it not been discovered soon after it broke out, and had it not been for the showers of rain that fell, some thousands of acres would have been burnt, sheep pasture laid barren and enormous numbers of grouse destroyed. There were two or three flashes of lightning just before the fire began, and they are supposed to have caused it.

Another correspondent writes:—About five o'clock on Friday afternoon a large portion of the Berwyn Mountain, above the Penarth Slate Quarries, was noticed to be on fire. Mr. Vosper, of Rhagat, at once despatched a number of men to the spot, and accompanied them himself. When the news reached Rug, the Hon. C. H. Wynn and his men made all haste to the place, as it was feared the fire was on his property. On reaching the place it was found this was not the case, but it was within two or three yards of it, and had the fire obtained the mastery the damage would have been enormous. Major Tottenham again suffers the heavy loss that took place on Friday night. About 100 men were in attendance endeavouring to stop the fire, but it was not until

30 on Saturday morning that it was quite got under. This was, no doubt, owing to a heavy shower of rain that fell in the meantime and assisted the men materially. A considerable fire again raged on Saturday and Sunday. No one seems to know how the fire originated, but incendiarism is strongly suspected; and a third correspondent says:—This mode of incendiarism is becoming so rife that some steps ought to be taken to bring the perpetrators within the grasp of the law. Evidently it is nothing less than spleen or revenge, and it would be simply absurd to advance the plea of mere accident as the cause of these disastrous fires. Many hundred acres of splendid grouse land have been destroyed for this season at least.

JULY 20, 1887.

NOTES.

QUAKER REGISTERS.—It may not be generally known that there are a large number of books containing entries of marriages, births, and deaths, at Somerset House, full of interesting memorials connected with Shropshire, Hereford, and the Welsh counties, as well as England generally. The marriages were usually witnessed by a large number of persons, and the places where the dead were buried are mentioned. A careful examination of these books, some of them commencing as early as 1660, would lead to the discovery of burial places now unknown. It may be mentioned, too, that at 12, Bishopsgate-street Without, the central office of the Society of Friends, there are classified indexes (Wales separately) of all the names scattered through the numerous volumes now kept at Somerset

House. The writer some few months ago visited both places seeking information, and as an act of justice records that the officials are most obliging, and give every assistance to persons who bona fide require information. The fee for a general search at Somerset House is one shilling. There is a modest fee charged at Bishopsgate-street, where a certified copy can be obtained if the person's name sought for should be found. A searcher is furnished gratuitously with forms, which he can fill up himself, and a trifling charge per hour is imposed if he does the work himself. PEARMAIN.

QUERIES.

WELSH BOROUGH TOWNS.—Which of the Towns in North or South Wales had the earliest Charter granting the Burgesses Liberties, free from the Lord of the District? **QUERIST.**

OLIVERCROMWELL AND OSWESTRY SCHOOL. Who was the John Evans, son of Matthew Evans, then late of Penegoes, who was recommended by Oliver Cromwell "to the Bailiffs and Free Burgesses of our Town of Oswestry" as Master for Oswestry Grammar School? And did the recommendation carry sufficient weight to secure the appointment? **QUERIST.**

MILL IN MONTGOMERY (the District of).—I saw a Charter, a few days ago, which passed in the 36th year of Henry III. (1251-2) granting to Baldwin de Montgomery the privilege of diverting the course of the River Severn to his Mill in Montgomery. Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* living in the vicinity identify the traces of this diversion? Also in the same year a grant to Phillip, son of Alan of Montgomery, of a Mill near the river Severn, "Stanlawescinlin sic vocat," appurtenant to the Castle of Montgomery. Is the above word the same as modern Stalloe, or does it include *Stalloe* and *Siglen*? Are there traces of a mill at Stalloe now? **PEARMAIN.**

REPLIES.

JUBILEE OF GEORGE III (July 6, 1887).—Perhaps this query cannot be better answered than in the words of "A Constant Reader" of the *English Chronicle*, writing at the time of George III.'s Jubilee (Oct. 21, 1809, is the date of the paper in which the letter appears):—"It is surprising that in a Christian country, where the Bible is the most common Book in the language, there should be so many people who are so lamentably ignorant or its contents, as not to have a correct idea of a Jubilee, or at what period of time it ought to take place. Most people believe that the rejoicing on account of our Gracious Sovereign having been preserved so many years on the throne ought to be observed at the expiration of *half a century*; but if they had paid any attention to the Jewish institutions, they would have known that a Jubilee was a public rejoicing at the end of *forty-nine or seven Sabbaths of years*." Our ancestors in the Georgian Era seem to have been more scriptural in their notion of a Jubilee than we are! **W. O.**

CURRENT NOTES.

A County Art Club is being established at Shrewsbury to provide a centre of union for art and artists in Shropshire.

Mr John Wright Oakes, A.R.A., died last week. He was a native of Sproston House, near Middlewich, Cheshire. He had exhibited annually at the Royal Academy since 1848, and in 1876 was elected an associate of that body.

The *Athenæum* says that among the list of papers drawn up to be read at the meetings of the Royal Historical Society next session is one on "Prince Henry of Monmouth's despatches during the War in Wales, 1402-1405, and the Treaty of Surrender by the Welsh Chieftains," by Mr Solly Flood, Q.C.

A remarkable cure is said to have been made at Willenhall, by means of faith-healing. The town was last week visited by Major Pearson of the Salvation Army, who gave a seance at the barracks, to which all persons suffering from infirmities were invited. Among them was a married woman named Mary Evans of Willenhall, who for three years past had been suffering from chronic rheumatism, for which complaint she had been unsuccessfully treated at the Wolverhampton Hospital, where her case, it is said, had been pronounced hopeless. At the seance, however, Mrs Evans, after praying with the Major, rose upon her feet, dispensed with her crutches, and walked around the room unaided. But how is she now?

Public reference has been recently made to the original of the hymn "From Greenland's Icy Mountains," which Heber wrote at Wrexham to be used at a service on behalf of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the manuscript of which is in the possession of Mr T. S. Raffles. A writer in the *Christian World* says that the late Dr. Raffles of Liverpool was on one occasion preaching at Wrexham, when he heard the story of Heber's hymn. It immediately occurred to him that probably on the printer's file the original manuscript might be found. Though many years had passed, and the search looked fruitless, yet it was made. On the file, covered up and long forgotten, it was at length found, and was soon secured to enrich the valuable collection of interesting relics which Dr. Raffles possessed.

The Rev. Geo. Griffiths, B.D., rector of Machynlleth, has been appointed by the Bishop of Bangor to the residentiary canonry in his cathedral, vacant through the resignation of Archdeacon Wynne Jones. Canon Griffiths, who is a low Churchman and an eloquent preacher, was educated at St. David's College, Lampeter. He was for some time domestic chaplain to the late Mrs Oakeley, of Plas Tanybwlic. Twenty-five years ago, when Archdeacon Evans was promoted to the Rectory of Llanellechid, Mr Griffiths was appointed to succeed him as rector of Machynlleth. One new English Church, and two Welsh mission chapels have been erected during his incumbency. The value of the canonry is £800 per annum. The term of residence will be July, August, and September. The appointment of Archdeacon is in abeyance pending steps being taken to give effect to a recommendation made some years ago by the Cathedral Commission, that the Archdeaconry of Anglesey should be revived, so that there will be three Archdeacons and one Canon Residentiary. In that case Archdeacon Evans will continue his office, not as Archdeacon of Merioneth, but as Archdeacon of Bangor; Canon John Price, now rector of Treddraeth and Canon Residentiary, will be designated Archdeacon of Anglesey; and Canon Griffiths will be nominated Archdeacon of Merioneth. Under the proposed arrangement each archdeacon will be resident in his archdeaconry proper. At present the Archdeacon of Merioneth lives close to Bangor.

THE REV. H. WALSHAM HOW, M.A., has been appointed to the rectory of St. Anne's, Denton, Lancashire. Mr How, who is the second son of the Bishop of Bedford, was educated at Marlborough College; graduated at Wadham College, Oxford; and between 1878 and 1879 was engaged at the Leeds Clergy School. In 1879 he was ordained to the curacy of Stoke-on-Trent, under Sir Lovelace Stamer. In September, 1885, he was appointed by Bishop Fraser (being the last appointment made by the Bishop) to the sole charge of St. Anne's, Houghton.

A WHIRLWIND AT DUDLESTON AND CHESTER. — On Thursday, at a farm in Dudleston parish, while some men were unloading hay a sudden and strong whirlwind caught up the hay and straw, taking some of it a tremendous height, and depositing it at a distance from where it ascended in large heaps. For a few seconds it was quite dark. — Shortly after five o'clock on Thursday evening there was a whirlwind at Chester. Several persons, who were in the neighbourhood of the Grove's Boating Station, saw a large cloud of dust whirled rapidly near the Wishing Steps on the city walls. Just at the moment a steamer had returned to a landing-stage with a number of passengers, who, seeing the dense cloud floating in the air overhead, suddenly ducked their heads with the evident intention of escaping it. The cloud then dissolved, and the cyclonic blast which had kept it suspended in the air rushed towards the river with disastrous effects. Small boats were lifted bodily out of the water, and others forcibly removed from their moorings. A landing stage was removed from its fittings, whilst a perfect shower of cushions and other boating materials dropped into the river. Some persons narrowly escaped being drowned or meeting with injury. The whirlwind lasted only a moment or two, but the scene on the river, it is said, will not be forgotten for some time to come by those who witnessed it.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

The Diversions of a Book-Worm (London: Elliot Stock), which we noticed at the time of its first appearance, has won the success of a second edition, and Mr J. Rogers Rees has taken advantage of the opportunity to add an index compiled by Mr F. Grahame Aylward.

Another of the tastefully bound and printed books from Mr Stock's Press is *Gleanings in Old Garden Literature*, by Mr W. Carew Hazlitt. It forms part of the Book-Lover's Library, to which, it will be remembered, Mr Hazlitt contributed "Old Cookery Books." The author has chiefly devoted himself to what we may call an exhibition of the fruit and vegetables of olden days, and we are not sure that this is a very attractive subject except for horticultural enthusiasts of an antiquarian turn of mind. Perhaps the most interesting parts of the book are those in which we read of "Bacon as a Gardener," and of other famous men like Evelyn and Sir William Temple: and this from Horace Walpole, though, doubtless, familiar to some of our readers, will interest others, who must be warned, however, against placing too much faith in Walpole's philology. He is describing Bridgman's invention of Ha-ha fences, and he says—

The capital stroke, the leading step to all that has followed, was [I believe the first thought was Bridgman's] the destruction of walls for boundaries, and the invention of fosses—an attempt then deemed so astonishing that the common people called them *Ha! Ha!* to express their surprise at finding a sudden and unperceived check to their walks.

Early in the book we come across a reference to the belief in astrology as governing the operation of the gardener, and Mr Hazlitt quotes the tract in the *Porkington MS.*

(fifteenth century), entitled "A Treatise for a man to know which time of the year it is best to graft or to plant trees, and also to make a tree to bear all manner of fruit of divers colours and odours, with many other things." He proceeds—

This compilation sounds voluminous, but it occupies only ten small octavo pages in type. You are instructed what you should do under sundry signs of the zodiac, and lessons are given in pruning and grafting. A good deal of it seems to be abstracted from Aristotle and Palladius; but the under-quoted reads like a little trait of primitive English whimsicality:—"Also, for to make that a pearl, or a precious stone, or a farthing, or any other manner of thing be found in an apple, take an apple or a pear, after it has flowered, and somewhat waxen, and thrust in hard at the bud's end which one thou wilt of these things aforesaid, and let it grow, and mark well the apple that thou didst put in the thing, whatever it be."

Amongst many writers quoted by Mr Hazlitt is Richard Gardiner of Shrewsbury, who in 1603 put forth "Profitable Instructions for the Manuring, Sowing, and Planting of Kitchen Gardens."

The Preface of this work is addressed by the writer to "his loving neighbours and friends, within the towne of Shrewsburie, in the countie of Salop;" and it is manifest from the tone and language of it, as well as from the presence of two prayers at the end by way of peroration, that Gardiner was in holy orders, although no mention of that fact occurs on the title. He seems to say that at that date the condition of horticulture in Shropshire among the lower ranks was very unsatisfactory; but he trusts that his publication will inaugurate an improved state of affairs, and in a copy of encomiastic verses by a friend, Edward Thorne (or Thornes, of Melverley), this sanguine view is supported and echoed. I am afraid that I should not be thanked for quoting Thorne at large; yet let me give four lines of his doggerel eulogy:—

"The rich likewise and better sorte,
His labours could not misse:
Which makes them many times to thinke,
That Salop London is."

To do no more than justice to Gardiner himself, however, his tract deals in a sensible and practical way enough with the subject undertaken. He includes beans, carrots, turnips, onions, cucumbers (which Thorne, by the way, approaches nearer to the French by terming *concombers*), artichokes, cabbages, lettuces, and parsnips; and he very strongly represents the advantage which might accrue from a more extended cultivation of these vegetables, especially carrots, instead of depending on the continental supply, which afforded to the foreigners so lucrative a trade. He dwells most in detail on the carrot. He particularises three species as being then known among us, or at least in Shropshire,—the great long yellow carrot, the great short carrot, and the wild carrot; of which the last was worthless for culinary purposes. We cannot help observing that, besides his devout preface and the prayers which wind up his Instructions, he lays stress, in common with most, if not all, of the old school, on an observance of the planetary conditions essential to the successful growth of crops. But he quaintly intersperses ordinary rules for sowing or planting with pious sentiments and even oburgations; for, in speaking of the vendors of bad seed, he denounces them as Caterpillars, declares them worthy of execution, avers that the Almighty God doth behold this monstrous deceit, and trusts that He will either turn their hearts or confound their proceedings.

The book is supplied with a good index.

An interesting paper on *The Welsh Language in the 16th and 17th Centuries*, by Mr Ivor James (Cardiff: Daniel Owen & Co.) has been reprinted from the now defunct *Red Dragon*. Many of our readers will probably be surprised to learn that the use of the Welsh language in Wales is to a large extent a modern revival. Mr James was impressed by discovering that in the time of the civil wars neither the Royalists nor the Parliamentary leaders communicated with the Welsh people through the medium of their native language. There were pamphlets in abundance—Thomasson collected 30,000!—and many were in-

tended for circulation in Wales, but, so far as Mr James knows, the only political leader who wrote in Welsh was Morgan Lloyd of Wrexham. Incidentally we have a glimpse of the division of land in the 17th century. "It is much easier," wrote Major-General Berry to Cromwell "to find in Wales fifty landlords of fifty pounds per annum than five of five hundred pounds." The population was small but well-to-do, and the country was owned in innumerable small estates. But to come back to the question of language. How strange in these days, when the native tongue is loved with something like passionate devotion, to read that "Of all the nations of the world, so far as I know (it is the Rev. John Edwards writing in 1651) there are not any who entertain so much enmity to their own tongue as do the Welsh." Rowland Vaughan refers to the desire which was felt that English might be spoken throughout the island, and William Salesbury wrote his well-known dictionary to further the movement, which was favoured by men of the first consideration and attainments. Mr James shows how many English words had become incorporated in the popular speech in very early times, and all this part of the paper is full of interest for the philologist. As a striking sign of the decadence of the Welsh nationality we have the fact that no Eisteddfod was held in North Wales between 1568 and 1793, and in the sixteenth century only seven, attended altogether by eighty persons, were held in South Wales. Another remarkable fact is the employment of large numbers of Welshmen in high places in England.

From 1558 for more than one hundred years Wales supplied a comparatively greater number of Bishops to the English and Welsh Episcopal Bench than any other portion of the kingdom. From the time of Henry VII. the State papers record the names of an extremely large number of Welshmen who held high official positions in every public department in England. The facts were not overlooked by the English writers of the time, including the famous Camden, who as master of Westminster School had educated a great many Welsh boys. "Since the Welsh," he says, "were admitted to the Imperial Crown of England, they have to their just praise performed all the parts of dutiful loyalty and allegiance most faithfully thereunto; plentifully yielding martial captains, judicious civilians, skilful common lawyers, learned divines, complete courtiers, and adventurous soldiers."

For the influences which brought about the disuse of the Welsh language, we must refer our readers to Mr James's pages, where they are briefly mentioned. As to the extraordinary, and, we should think, unparalleled revival of the language, singularly enough it seems to be largely due to the civil wars! The intimate social and ecclesiastical relations with England were suspended, grammar schools disappeared, and the Welsh were thrown back on their own resources. Welsh revived, and drove back English, and so began a national movement which is perhaps at its fullest tide at the present moment.

JULY 27, 1887.

NOTES.

RECTORY OF LLANASAPH, FLINT.—Lease of contract dated Nov. 25, 1656, between the Trustees for the Maintenance of Ministers on the one part and George Glegg of Westminster, Middlesex, Gent., of the other, for a lease of the Rectory, Tythes, &c., of Llanasaph for four years from September the twenty-ninth last past. Rent one hundred and fifteen pounds per annum clear (late possessions of the Bishop of St. Asaph, and late in the tenure of Roger Wilbraham, his assigns or under tenants). Connected with the above contract

is a letter dated 30 December, 1656, stating that Clegg prayed that the lease granted to him may be made out to Mrs. Fowkes. Ordered accordingly, and the lease, of which a counterpart is preserved, was made out to Mrs. Eleanor flowke of Llanasaph parish for the four years, rent payable in two instalments, one on the 25th of March, the other on the 29th of September, yearly, at or in the North Porch of the Parish Church of St. Margaretts, Westminster. The lessee signed her name "Ellin Fulkes." A bond for £230, signed by Mrs Fowkes and Robert Whitley of Aston, co. of Flint, is among the papers; the condition of the obligation was the due payment of the rent.—*Lambeth MSS., No. 949, Documents Nos. 31, 32, 33, 36, and 37.*

ZETA.

A BISHOP'S PRIVILEGE, 1626.—1626, March 31. Order of the House (of Lords) for the Deputy Sheriff of the County of Carnarvon and the gaoler of the Castle of Carnarvon to appear and answer for arresting Henry Griffith, servant to the Bishop of Bangor. L. J. III. p. 546. p. 8.

1626, April 26. Order for the discharge of Griffith, Under Sheriff of Carnarvon, in custody for arresting Henry Griffith, servant of the Bishop of Bangor. L. J. III., 572.

Annexed—

1. List of persons to be sent for to answer for contempt in the matter of Griffith's arrest (signed by the Lord Keeper Coventry). See L. J. III., 572.

2. Petition of Sir Thomas Williams, Bart., High Sheriff of the County of Carnarvon, to Lord Keeper Coventry. In the list of persons to be brought up on the question of the Bishop of Bangor's privilege is the name of Hugh Jones, gaoler to the petitioner. He has many prisoners in his custody, and the King's service will be neglected. Prays that for the present he may be excused from attending.

Noted by Coventry.—"I did not conceive that the gaoler was among those names tendered to me by my Lord of Bangor, therefore let him be spared till further order, but if there be another of the same name, let the warrant go on if my Lord will charge that other person." T.C., 28 April, 1526. p. 10.—*His. MSS. Com., 4 Report.* Z.

OLD OSWESTRY CORPORATION ACCOUNTS.

The following extracts from the Records of the Oswestry Corporation contain many interesting items. Note in the present instalment "6s paid for James the foole's coate." And what does "Andriaments" mean? The Coroner's fee for a year in 1674 was 13s 4d; and there is an item of 8s 4d for "mendinge the Wall att New Gate and makinge the poole." The New Gate was in Church-street, and is marked by the sign of a white horse. J.

The Account of Sir John Trevor Knight Mayor of this Town and Borough of Oswestry in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and seventy five and Given in by Edward Owen gent his Deputy as followeth

Receipts	£ s. d.
Reed of David Hugh Butcher for his beinge admitted Burgesse and sworne	2 0 0
Reed of John Ffoulkes for the same	3 0 0
Reed of John Tomley of Crickheath towards the renewinge of the Charter... ..	0 4 8

	£ s. d.
Reed of Hugh Price of Crogen Wladis for the like... ..	0 10 0
Reed of Hugh Hughes Thomas Morris and David ap Richard all of Llanarmon Dyffryn Keiriog for the like	1 0 0
Reed for the towne extracts and Andriaments	0 10 6
Reed for a Lewne and Assessment cast for the Towne	12 7 2
Reed of John Kyffin for rent	0 18 0

Tot. 20 10 4

Disbursments

Paid for the repairs of Blodwell Bridge	2 17 2
Paid for the Militia	1 17 7
Paid Richard Williams Churchwarden as by Acquittances appears	3 12 8
Paid John the Bellman's Wages... ..	1 6 8
For a Quier of paper	0 0 6
For mendinge the Glasse Wyndowes	0 0 10
For bringinge two Letters from the Mayor of Shrewsbury	0 0 10
Paid Stephen Lloyd the joyner for the Wainscoat	1 10 0
Paid for John Kyffin's Cloathes... ..	1 8 6
Paid for James the foole's coate... ..	0 6 0
For mendinge the Wall att New Gate and makinge the poole	0 8 4
Paid Ffrancis Ellis for paveinge in Church Street	0 12 0
For takeinge ye Gravelle and carryinge it	0 9 4
Paid the Coronr. his fee for the year 1674	0 13 4

20 3 7

Paid to Balance this Accompt exceptinge forty shillings which is paid to the Recordr. over and above the Three pounds which hee reed. of one John Foulkes wch. was made Burgesse by his promisement which forty shillings is not allowed by us.

(To be continued.)

QUERIES.

PORKINGTON MS.—Is the "Porkington MS." mentioned in *Gleanings in Old Garden Literature* (July 20, 1887), entitled "A Treatise for a man to know which time of the year it is best to graft, &c.," still at Brogyntyn? W.O.

RICHARD GARDINER OF SHREWSBURY.—What is known of Richard Gardiner, who wrote "Profitable Instructions for the Manuring, Sowing, and Planting of Kitchen Gardens," published in 1603; and of Edward Thorne, or Thornes, of Melverley, who addressed a copy of encomiastic verses to him? I suppose he was one of the family who still reside in the district. Bonwm.

ABERTANNAD.—In the erudite work compiled by the late Mr. Edward Breese of Portmadoc, on page 13, it is stated that Abertannad, anterior to 31-35 Hen. VIII. (1543), was taken and reputed to be and used as a parcel of the County of Merioneth, but by an Act passed in that year (c. 26, s. 87) it was united, annexed, and made parcel of the County of Salop. Can this be a misprint? "Merioneth" for "Montgomery." If not, could any reader of *Bye-Gones* say how far from Abertanat is the nearest point of the present County of Merioneth?

A SILURIAN.

REPLIES.

COATS OF ARMS (May 11, 1887).—Papworth's "Ordinary of Arms" would probably answer Miss Thoys's first query. As to the second, the date of the "oldest coats," and whose they are (Puleston's?) should be stated. The Pulestons of Emral were there, I believe, in Edward I.'s time. The Lakens were situated near Wem as early as 1400, and one of them witnessed the Oswestry Charter in 8th Hen. IV. (1406-7.) Z.

THE VORD GRON (July 6, 1887).—Through the kindness of a friend I am enabled to send you the following, which is a copy of one of the circulars sent out in 1875 by the late Mr Ceiriog Hughes, to members of the "Vord Gron" Society, and others, and in which the principal objects of the Society are set forth:—

IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE VORD GRON.

The Vord Gron, which dates its origin from the Mold and Bangor Eisteddfodau of 1873-74, and the Wrexham Gorsedd of 1875, is an order or guild of Welshmen and others who take an interest in Wales, its history, its traditions, and its literature. Its aims and objects, as well as its rules and forms of initiation, bear a close resemblance to those of the old Cymrodorion and Gwyneddigion of London. The V.G. contemplates—Firstly, the formation of a fraternity of patriotic Welshmen at home and abroad; secondly, to unite in a common bond the earnest lovers of the National Eisteddfod, who aim at removing its imperfections and increasing its usefulness; thirdly, to enhance the value and prevent the abuse of Gorsedd Honours; and fourthly, to secure the public audit of Eisteddfod accounts, with the view of aiding subsequent Eisteddfod Committees with money and prizes, and directing annually a fair and reasonable share of Eisteddfod profits towards educational purposes, and the promotion of art, science, and literature.

It is believed that by a combination of a hundred or two of the gentry who subscribe to Eisteddfodau and the literati who act as adjudicators and otherwise, an effectual means will be found to check the grievous irregularities which have of late years taken place, and tended to alienate from our National gatherings some of the best and most talented of our countrymen, while at the same time many opportunities will be afforded of co-operating as a Literary and Historical Society.

To full-comrades we enclose a balance sheet of receipts and expenses for the five half years ending June and December, 1873 and 1874, and June, 1875. Anyone desirous of joining with, or to obtain further information of the Vord Gron, will please communicate with either of the undersigned, A. J. Brereton, Mold, Cadwalader Davies, 56, George-street, Portman-square, London, H. Derwin Davies, surveyor and architect, Wrexham, J. Ceiriog Hughes, Caersws, Mont., Rev. R. Jones, B.A., All Saints, Rotherhithe, London, Rev. T. R. Lloyd, Rectory, Llanvynnydd, Wrexham, Mynyddog, Cemmes, Mont. Subscriptions at present, and during the period necessary for organization, Ten Shillings per annum. The brotherhood is expected to be finally established in the course of a year or two; and the co-operation and assistance of those who have Wales at heart is earnestly solicited.

"Tournament Title" of each member will be found endorsed on the back of his or her certificate. The next Vord will be held at Wrexham, Nov. 10th, at eight p.m.,—all day on 11th, and on morning of 12th.

In case comrades will not be able to attend, it is important that a word to that effect should be sent.

If any of your correspondents could send to *Bye-Gones* a copy of the original prospectus of the Society,

in which the intentions of the promoters, I believe, were more fully explained, it would be interesting.

It will be noticed that out of seven gentlemen mentioned in the circular, from whom further information respecting the Vord Gron fraternity could be obtained, only three (Messrs Cadwalader Davies, H. D. Davies, and the Rev. T. R. Lloyd,) are now living. May I appeal to those gentlemen who survive to send to *Bye-Gones* any further information they can give respecting the Society?
BERWYN.

CURRENT NOTES.

A Lawn Tennis Association for Wales and Monmouthshire has been formed.

The wife of Sir Richard Williams Bulkeley, Bart., has given birth to a son and heir.

The Rev. T. E. Meredyth, M.A., rector of Ightfield, has been appointed by the Bishop to the Rural Deanery of Whitchurch, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. W. H. Egerton, who has held the office for 25 years.

At Carmarthen Assizes, the Judge, addressing the grand jury, said: "As they knew, he had been assigned to deliver her Majesty's gaols in the two counties forming West South Wales. He found fine, handsome prisons, and he was surrounded by a fine body of police, but he found no criminals. Why the counties kept up their prisons, or continued to bear the expense of the police, he did not know—that was a question for the counties themselves."

The death is announced of Mr Walter Moseley, of Buildwas Park, Shropshire. The Moseley family are said to be directly descended from King Alfred the Great and were for many years seated in Staffordshire, until they acquired Buildwas, in the year 1709, by the marriage of Walter Moseley, of the Mere, in that county, with Jane, the only daughter of William Acton, of Buildwas, a younger son of Sir Edward Acton, of Aldenham, near Bridgnorth.

In driving through a fault at the Merthyr Vale Colliery the men struck a huge blower of gas, which has been diverted into pipes and brought to the top of the pit, a distance of about a mile and a quarter. A light was then applied to the gas, which burns with such brilliancy as to illuminate the whole district. The quantity of gas escaping from the blower was estimated to be 2,000 feet per minute. Steps are now being taken to purify the gas so as to utilise it for domestic purposes.

The Late Dr. Edwards of Bala.

The Rev. Dr Lewis Edwards, Principal of Bala College, died on Tuesday morning, July 19, at Bala, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. Although Dr. Edwards had been in declining health for some time, the inhabitants of the Principality, where he was generally known and highly esteemed, were scarcely prepared for the news of his death, which will be received in all parts of Wales with deep regret. More than three years ago Dr. Edwards was attacked by paralysis, while he was attending the annual Association of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Churches of Liverpool at Whitsuntide, and since that time he has been unable to discharge many of the duties which he performed before with remarkable vigour in spite of his long service and advanced years. With the help of Dr. Hughes of Liverpool and the Rev. D. C. Davies of Bangor he continued to act as Principal of the College, and he was once able to make his appearance in the pulpit at

Bala. Even within the last three weeks Dr. Edwards made what was probably his last utterance in public, when he addressed a few words to the students of his College at the close of the session. Thus, after sixty years of work, for it was in 1827 when he first began to preach, and although he was struggling with the infirmities of age, Dr. Edwards may be said to have died in harness, and only to have put off his armour to enter into the final rest which crowned a life of high and strenuous endeavour.



Dr. Edwards was the son of the late Mr Lewis Edwards farmer, and was born at Pwllcenawon, Penllwyn, near Aberystwyth, on October 27th, 1809. He was educated, together with Mr Henry Richard, M.P., at the school of Mr John Evans, Aberystwyth, the father of the present principal of the Salop School, Oswestry, and afterwards at Llan-geitho, under the late Rev. John Jones, whence he proceeded to London University, and afterwards to the University of Edinburgh, where he passed a distinguished career, and graduated M.A. In 1837, in connection with his brother-in-law, the late Dr. David Charles, he opened at Bala a school chiefly intended for the training of young men for the ministry, which has since developed into Bala Calvinistic Methodist College, where for many years Dr. Edwards has been Principal.

In 1845 Dr. Edwards brought out, and for upwards of 25 years conducted, the *Tracthodydd* (the *Essayist*), a quarterly magazine, containing original contributions upon theology, history, politics, and literature. "This," says the *British Weekly* (in an article recently published, which we proceed to quote) "was the first venture of the kind in Welsh, and Wales has never since had such a successful and able publication as the *Tracthodydd* was in its early days. The editor contributed valuable papers upon Goethe, Homer, Coleridge, Kant, Hamilton, and Mill. In the articles upon Homer and Goethe he translated parts of the Iliad and of Faust into Welsh verse, thus introducing an entirely new world to the purely Welsh reading public. Had he been educated at Oxford, he

could not have been a more staunch and enlightened advocate of classical training. In 1849 we find him writing an article upon 'Classical Schools for the Welsh,' in which the following sentence occurs:—'Unless we are to suppose ourselves wiser than all the wise men that have lived in the world for more than eighteen hundred years, we must believe that the best orator is the one who most resembles Demosthenes and Cicero; the best poet is he who is most like Homer, or Sophocles, or Virgil; the best historian is he who resembles most Herodotus, or Thucydides, or Livy, or Tacitus; and that no finer models of the best modes of reasoning can be found than Plato and Aristotle.' All this may sound commonplace enough now, but then it was a revelation for the people of Wales. The sentiment was the more remarkable, because it was a direct contradiction of the patriotic nonsense so frequently preached as to the imagined incomparable superiority of the native literature. In a fine article upon Mr Gladstone, published many years ago, he attributes his greater breadth and more complete grasp of principles in their many-sidedness as compared with Mr Bright, to the fact of Mr Gladstone having received a thorough classical training. The manner in which he pulverised the 'Report of the Commissioners of Enquiry into the state of Education in Wales,' and held them and their libellous informers up to the contempt and ridicule of the country, will be long remembered. He struck such wholesome terror to the heart of the defamers of Welsh Nonconformity that they have ever after paused to make sure that they were beyond the reach of Dr Edwards before uttering their calumnies. His principal theological work is a volume entitled 'The Doctrine of the Atonement,' originally published in 1860, and recently translated into English. This book has left a lasting impression on the theology of Wales, where it was eagerly read, and its views fully discussed in young men's Bible-classes and similar meetings. Opinions have and probably will always differ as to the correctness of his exposition of the doctrine, but no one can call in question the author's grasp of the subject in all its bearings, his profound thinking and most lucid treatment. As a theologian, Dr Edwards inaugurated an era of more liberal thought in the Principality, and he has taught his countrymen to connect their theology with philosophy. In the work already referred to, he has given a practical illustration of the manner in which philosophy is to be made the handmaid of theology. One of the earliest chapters contains an admirable account of Plato's doctrine of ideas, and references to the works of this king of philosophers are found throughout the book."

In addition to the works which have been mentioned, Dr Edwards was a contributor both to the English and Welsh periodical press, and his Literary and Theological Essays, published by Messrs Hughes of Wrexham, attained great popularity and exercised considerable influence on Welsh literature. But, although he did more than most Welshmen to elevate Welsh literature and to open the literature of the world to his countrymen, he devoted his life to the ministry, and to the college where young men were trained for it, with which he was connected from the time of its foundation up to his death.

The college, as we have stated, had its origin in the school or theological institution established by Dr Edwards and Dr Charles, who had many difficulties to contend with, but were heartily supported by men like John Elias and Mr John Davies of Fronheulog, and in 1839 the institution was adopted by the Calvinistic Methodist Association at Carnarvon as the college of the Connexion. After some time Dr Charles removed to Trevecca to establish

a similar College, and was succeeded at Bala by the late Rev. John Parry, who continued up to the time of his death to be associated with Dr Edwards, and the college by this time had begun to attract students from all parts of North Wales. In 1867 a new and handsome building, from designs by Mr Spaul of Oswestry, was erected at a cost of £10,000; and the college has been endowed with a fund of £26,000 raised by the exertions of the late Rev. E. Morgan of Dyffryn. The work which Dr. Edwards has done in connection with the College can scarcely be overestimated in its influence upon the Calvinistic Methodist Church. In fact, he has worked something like a revolution in the ministry, by his earnest and successful advocacy, in the face of determined opposition, of the system of settled pastors in the place of the itinerant preachers who had no defined connection with any particular Church. Dr. Edwards's excellent influence upon the students seemed to continue through all their ministerial career, and many of them, now the leaders of religious thought in Wales, have never lost the feeling of esteem and affection which he won from them while they were still under his care at Bala. He was never tired of helping the students both before and after they had left the College, and his name will long be enshrined in the hearts of hundreds of ministers in Wales and in many parts of the world. As a preacher Dr. Edwards was more distinguished by his scholarly attainments, the purity of his style, and the depth and clearness of his thoughts, than by those oratorical attractions which win favour with the multitude. But, although not ranked in some respects amongst the most popular preachers in Wales, he was always welcome among the more thoughtful members of the congregations to which he ministered, and, with all the quietness of his demeanour his earnest and fervent appeals had at times a remarkable effect upon his hearers. His reception into the South Wales Association was in 1829; and he was ordained in 1837.

In politics Dr. Edwards was an earnest Liberal, and he always took a deep interest in every movement which was started and promised to promote the welfare of the Principality. Foremost amongst these was the University College at Aberystwyth, which he warmly assisted in days of trouble and discouragement, when many others stood aloof, and which he lived to see a growing and flourishing institution, with his eldest son at its head.

Dr. Edwards was a personal friend of Dr. Chalmers, and in 1843 was sent as a deputation from Wales to Edinburgh, at the time of the Disruption, and the formation of the Free Church, when he delivered an address which produced a great sensation. In 1865 the University of Edinburgh conferred upon him the degree of D.D. His career at that University must have been a distinguished one, for his pupils, many years afterwards, proceeding to Edinburgh, found his memory quite fresh in the minds of the then still surviving professors, Professor Wilson (Christopher North) and Professor Pillans, and others, who always spoke of him in terms of high esteem, Professor Pillans stating that he never drew up his lectures on general grammar, which he delivered at the end of each session, without first consulting the papers on that subject which Mr Edwards sent up to him as exercises when a pupil in his class.

Dr. Edwards married a sister of Dr. Charles's (and grand-daughter of "Charles of Bala") by whom he had nine children, six of whom, four sons and two daughters, survive. Principal Edwards of Aberystwyth and the Rev. Llewelyn Edwards of the same town received news of the alarming condition of their father (who had a paralytic stroke on Friday, July 15), and arrived at Bala

on Saturday; and another son, the Rev. D. C. Edwards, who had started for the Continent, arrived home on Monday. For some time before the fatal seizure Dr Edwards had appeared to be in better health than usual, and, as we have stated, he addressed the students at the close of the session, when his words, although scarcely audible, had a deep effect, not only upon the students but upon all who heard him. It was appropriate that his last words in public should have been uttered in the scene of his life-long labours, and addressed to the students whose welfare had been the constant object of his thoughtful solicitude.

The funeral of Dr. Edwards took place on Friday, the remains being interred in the parish churchyard at Llany Cil. At Bala business and work were entirely suspended throughout the day, all the shops and other places of business being closed and the blinds of private houses drawn down; and it was evident from the conversation and demeanour of the inhabitants that a great and universal sorrow prevailed amongst the old and young, rich and poor alike, for Dr. Edwards's lifelong devotion to the welfare, both moral and spiritual, of the people among whom he laboured and who could best appreciate the value of his services, had won for him the respect, esteem, affection and confidence of the town and neighbourhood. His remarkable influence and the widespread respect in which Dr Edwards was held throughout the Principality were also evident by the large attendance of friends, ministers, and deacons, and other representative men from every county in North Wales, many also coming from South Wales, London, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Chester, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, and other English towns. Hundreds of people arrived at Bala by the morning trains, and hundreds in vehicles, on horseback, or on foot from the surrounding neighbourhoods; and the quiet and subdued conversation of groups of people assembled at various points of the town, the silent pressure of the hand, the heart being too full for utterance, as friend met friend, many of whom had been pupils of the great man to whose memory they had that day met to pay their last tribute of respect, made the scene one that will not soon be forgotten by those who witnessed it. The Calvinistic Methodist Church at Bala had made most excellent arrangements for the comfort of friends coming from a distance; who, on their arrival, were directed to the Board Schoolroom, where luncheon was laid, of which about 800 altogether partook, and, after returning from Llany Cil, tea was provided at the same place, to which about 1,000 people sat down. It was the wish of the family that the funeral arrangements should be of the simplest character, and it was well-known that Dr. Edwards had always expressed an objection to any display in connection with funerals; the customary addresses were therefore dispensed with. Shortly after noon the large concourse of people proceeded towards the College grounds, where, in the open air, in front of the principal entrance to the College, a short but most impressive service was conducted, before the funeral procession started for the burial ground at Llany Cil. The body, having been brought out of the house, was placed on a bier, and, amidst the deepest silence, broken only by audible signs of emotion, the coffin was covered with beautiful wreaths composed of the choicest flowers, placed there by the loving hands of relatives and friends. The service began with the hymn No. 196, "Duw ymdangosodd yn y cnawd," given out by the Rev. Robert Roberts, Dolgelley, and impressively sung to the tune "Sabbath," after which the Rev. Joseph Thomas, Carno, read portions of Scripture (2 Cor., portions of iv. and v.; and 2 Timothy, iv.); and Dr Hughes offered prayer. The Rev. Dr. Griffith Parry, of Aberystwyth, gave out the

Hymn No. 916 (verses 2 and 3), "Cawn esgyn o'r dyrus anialwch," which was sung to the tune "Elliot"; and then the procession was formed. For a short distance, from the College to the road, the bier was borne on the shoulders of the four sons of the deceased, the Revs. Principal Edwards, D.D., and Llewelyn Edwards, M.A., of Aberystwyth, and D. Charles Edwards, M.A., Bala, and Dr James Edwards, Liverpool. At one p.m. the procession left the College grounds for Llany Cil, a distance of a mile and a half, in the following order, walking four abreast:—

Dr Hughes, Bala; Mr J. R. Jones, solicitor, Bala.

Ministers of all denominations.

(Over 300 in number.)

Deacons.

(Numbering about 280.)

Carriage of Mr J. R. Ll. Price of Rhylwls.

Carriage of Colonel Evans-Lloyd of Moel-y-Garnedd, High Sheriff of Merionethshire.

Carriage of Mrs Richards, Vronheullog.

The Rev Professors Hugh Williams, M.A., and Ellis Edwards, M.A.

Twenty-six of the present Students at Bala College

THE BODY.

Mourners:

The Revs Thomas Charles Edwards, D.D., Aberystwyth, Llewelyn Edwards, M.A., Aberystwyth, David Charles Edwards, M.A., Bala, and Dr James Edwards, Liverpool, sons of the deceased; and the Rev W. Dickens Lewis, D.D., Shrewsbury, and Mr W. R. Evans, Wrexham, sons-in-law.

Masters Lewis Charles Edwards, Aberystwyth, Frederick Arthur, Charles, and George Lewis, Shrewsbury, Llewelyn Edwards, Aberystwyth, Lewis Edwards Evans, Wrexham, Ieuan Charles Edwards, Bala, and Lewis Edwards, Liverpool, grandsons.

Rev. D. Charles Davies, M.A., Bangor, Mr R. J. Davies, Cwrtmawr, the Rev. David Pugh, vicar of Bettws, Glamorganshire, Mr D. Charles Roberts, Aberystwyth, and Mr D. Jenkins Davies, Aberystwyth.

First mourning carriage containing—Mrs Dickens Lewis, Shrewsbury, Mrs Thomas Charles Edwards, Aberystwyth, and Mrs Llewelyn Edwards, Aberystwyth.

Second carriage containing—Mrs David Charles Edwards, Bala, Mrs James Edwards, Liverpool, and Miss Marian Charles Edwards, Aberystwyth.

Third carriage containing—Mrs Hugh Williams, Bala College, Misses Leta and Myfanwy Edwards, Misses Edith Mary and Celia Evans, and Miss Blodwen Edwards.

The Office Bearers of

Bala Calvinistic Methodist Church.

The Choir.

The Church and Congregation of Bala Calvinistic Methodists,

The General Public.

In passing through the town and along the road, the choir sang the following hymns—No. 857, "Tragwyddoldeb, mawr yw'th enw" (verses 4 and 7, tune "Tanycastell"), and No. 858, "Yn y dyfroedd mawr a'r tonau" (tune "Alexander"). The funeral cortege reached Llany Cil about two p.m., and on reaching the village the lines were opened and a halt was made to allow the body and the mourners to pass. The bier was carried all the way, in turns, on the shoulders of the deacons of Bala Church and past and present students, and other friends, to the entrance of the sacred enclosure, where the remains of so many eminent Welshmen, among whom are Charles of Bala, Dr Parry, Ioan Pedr, and others, are laid to rest; and from thence to the grave in the family burial place, which is situated close to the east end of the church. The vault was lined with evergreens, moss, and flowers. The body having been lowered into the grave, the Rev. Owen Jones, B.A., Liverpool, Moderator of the North Wales Calvinistic Methodist Association, gave out the old hymn 847, "Bydd myrdd o ryfeddodau" (tune "Denton's Green"), which was very effectively sung and repeated with enthusiasm by the large congregation, which numbered close upon

three thousand persons. Dr. Owen Thomas, Liverpool, then read the following portions of Scripture:—1 Thessalonians, iv., 13-18; Luke xii., 35-40; 1 Cor. xv., 51-58, and the Rev. William Williams, Swansea, engaged in prayer; after which the Rev. Owen Jones, B.A., gave out the hymn No. 916, "O fryniau Caersalem ceir gweled" (tune "Y Cyfamod Disigl"), which was sung and repeated with great feeling and effect. After the Benediction had been pronounced by the Rev. Hugh Jones, Liverpool, the Rev. J. Gwynoro Davies, Llanuwchllyn, on behalf of Mrs Edwards and the family, returned thanks for the universal sympathy which had been shown them in their bereavement; after which the great concourse dispersed, many, however, lingering to take a last look at the grave. The coffin was of polished oak with massive brass mountings, the inscription on the plate being—

LEWIS EDWARDS, D.D.

Born October 27, 1809.

Died July 19, 1887.

A large number of beautiful wreaths were placed upon the coffin and on the grave, amongst those who sent wreaths being the following:—The Rev. Dr. and Mrs Dickens-Lewis, Shrewsbury, the Rev. and Mrs D. Charles Edwards, Bala, Dr. and Mrs James Edwards, Liverpool, Mr and Mrs Griffith Charles-Jones, Shrewsbury, the grand children, Mr Richard Davies, lord-lieutenant of Anglesey, and Mrs Davies, Treborth, Mr John Roberts, M.P., Bryngwenallt, Abergele, the Rev. and Mrs Hugh Williams, Bala College, Mr and Mrs Evan Thomas, Birmingham, the Rev. Wm. and Mrs James, Manchester, Mrs R. O. Jones, Bala, Mr and Mrs Edward Griffith, Springfield, Dolgelley, the Misses Lewis, Hope-street, Liverpool, the Misses Jones, Plasyracre, Bala, the Rev. and Mrs Robert Davies, Shrewsbury, Mrs Richard Jones, Chester, Mrs Williams, Brook-street, Manchester, Mr and Mrs R. Morgan, Rhaiadr, Miss A. S. Jones, Bala, Miss Ellis, Cynlas, Bala, Miss Parry, Bala, Mr and Mrs Jones, Ashlands, Oswestry, Mr and Mrs Owen, High School, Oswestry, Mrs Lewis, Bala.

At six p.m. a funeral service was held at Tegid Chapel, which was crowded with a congregation numbering about 1,200 persons. The special hymns, selected for the occasion, were given out by the Rev J. Gwynoro Davies, Llanuwchllyn. After the hymn No. 696 (verses 3 and 4), "Ac ni fyddai i'n hir cyn gorphen," had been sung (tune, "Eifionydd"), the Rev T. J. Wheldon, B.A., Festiniog, read a portion of Scripture (Matthew xxv.), which was followed by the singing of hymn No. 380, "Fe welir Seion fely wawr" (tune, "Aeron"), and the Rev Edward Williams, Caemawr, Cynwyd, then engaged in prayer. The hymn before the sermon was No. 294, "Bydd melus gofio y cyfammod," sung to the tune "Esther." The funeral sermon was preached by the Rev Dr. Saunders of Swansea, who took as his text Matthew xxv. 21, "His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord." After the sermon the Rev Moses Thomas, Resolven, offered prayer, and the service, which was of a most impressive character throughout, was closed by the singing of Hymn No. 381, "Braith, braith, yw cael cymdeithas gyda'r saint" (2nd and 4th verses), to the tune "Glanyrafon."

A funeral sermon in memory of Dr. Edwards was also preached on Sunday evening at Tegid chapel, by Dr. Owen Thomas of Liverpool, before a very large congregation.

The portrait which we give of the late Dr. Edwards is from the columns of the *British Weekly*, published by Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton.

AUGUST 3, 1887.

NOTES.

BISHOP WILLIAM MORGAN (Ap. 6, 27, 1887).—In continuation of former notes, I have had put into my hand to-day, a document relating to Bishop William Morgan's family, which may enable some of your readers to trace the subject back to a remoter period than is covered by it. It says:—"Ellis Morgan was fourth in descent from Evan Morgan (the Bishop's son I apprehend) and had by his wife Ellen, (1) John; (2) William; (3) Griffith; (4) Robert. The last named married Gaenor Isaac, and had two sons, to be mentioned:—William, who, by his wife Gwen, had three children, Rhys, Catherine, Ellis. Robert, by his wife, Mary Lloyd, had—Ellen, John, Elizabeth, Robert, and their baptisms can be verified. Ellis Morgan, who heads this list, resided at Dolyddelan, and was a sort of general dealer there. His son John, dwelt at Penmachno, and companioned much with the clergy of his day, and acted the part of a lay attorney in settling disputes between neighbours. The second son William, was an old man when his father died, and he was a zealous Churchman, just at the time when Methodism began to spread in the neighbourhood of Bettws y Coed, Penmachno, and Dolyddelan. Robert Ellis Morgan's wife, Gaenor Isaac, was sister to Richard Isaac, whose daughter became mother to the celebrated John Jones (Llanllyfni) and David Jones (Carnarvon). This fact adds very much to the interest felt in the descendants of the Morgans of Wybyr Nant, Dolyddelan; for these men became quite as eminent, as preachers, as Dr. Morgan himself was eminent as a translator of the Bible into Welsh." That great work was published in the year 1588, and we may hope that the ter-centenary of its issue through the press, in 1888, will be marked by our countrymen in some peculiar manner. Meanwhile we should endeavour to learn something more of the Bishop, and of his descendants, and with the starting point supplied to me as above, I hope this will be attended to, and worked out satisfactorily. ASAPH.

OLD OSWESTRY CORPORATION ACCOUNTS, Continued (July 27, 1887).—The accounts of Richard Edwards, Mayor in 1676, contain several items of special interest. Thus we have records of the old trading guilds:—The "Company of the Clothworkers" and the "Company of Taylors," pay for "renewinge their Composition." Then, John Kyffin (one of the oldest of Oswestry names) pays 18s. for the rent of the Chamber "over the Crosse," an entry which suggests an interesting inquiry. There are charges of "3s. 4d. for goeing to Wrexham to speake with the Bisshop about the schoole concernes;" and "3s. 6d." is paid to John Tomley for "makeinge the Iron worke about ye new maces." A "table frame for the Excheqr" is mentioned and "a carpett for the Excheqr table," and the town paid 5s. 2d. for "fithers and making" a "coshon":— J.

The Accompt of Richard Edwards, Esqr., Mayor of this Towne and Borough of Oswestry, in the year of o'r Lord God 1676 as followeth:—

Impr. Receipts.	£ s. d.
Recev'd of Mr Edward Owen Deputy to S'r John Trevor late Mayor to Ballance his Accompt ...	0 6 0

	£ s. d.
Recev'd Rich. Jones freeman of this towne now of Whittington Farm for his Burgeship	6 0 0
Rec'd of Cadwaladr Evans freeman of this towne Dyer now of Fernhill	2 10 0
Rec'd of Hugh Owen and his sonnes of this towne	2 10 0
Rec'd of Thomas Jones of this towne Taylor...	2 10 0
Rec'd of William Jones of the same Glover	2 0 0
Rec'd of Thomas Griffiths al's Lluellyn of the same Clothworker	2 0 0
Rec'd of the Company of the Clothworkers for the renewinge of their Compos'on	6 0 0
Rec'd of the Companie of Taylors for the like	5 0 0
Rec'd of Edward ap Thomas al's Morris And Nathaniel Thomas his brother of Llangridge both sonnes of Thomas Morris late of ye same	0 13 4
Rec'd of Edward Hughes of Crogen Evan gent in ye county of Denbigh	0 6 8
Rec'd of Henry Prichard of Bridthier	0 5 6
Rec'd of Thomas Davies of Shrewsbury	0 6 8
Rec'd of William Williams of Osbaston	0 3 4
Rec'd of Mr Hugh price beinge moneys remaininge in his hands due to the Towne	0 8 6
Rec'd of the Lewne money that was cast for the house of correction maimed souldiers and other necessary cases within this towne for the year 1676	09 02 10
Rec'd of John Kyffin for the rent of the Chambr over the Crosse	0 18 0

Toto. is 40 19 10

Disbursm'ts of the same Mayor.

Impr. Paid myselfe twenty pounds beinge lent heretofore to the Bailiffs upon bonde for and towards the use of the towne with its interest for three yeeres which in the whole amounts to twenty-three pounds twelve shillings and the bond delivered up with this accompt	23 12 0
To the bear'r that brought a lett'r from ye Mayor of Shrewsbury	0 2 6
To a messenger to Mr Morrall by night	0 1 0
Our charges to Salop to consult w'th the Mayor of Shrewsbury and to certifie the King's privy councill about the said letter	0 12 6
To Mr Taylor for drawinge the said certificate	0 3 4
For the Beedles Cloathes	1 13 6
For mendinge the highway	0 2 0
For a Key for the Chamber where the Clocke is	0 0 8
For a great paper booke to inserte the Burgesses names in	0 4 6
For makinge up the walls at the Hall and lime and other worke there	0 4 6
Charges goeing to Wrexham to speake with the Bisshop about the schoole concernes	0 3 4
Paid John Tomley for makeinge the Iron worke about ye new maces	0 3 6
For a boxe to carry the same to London and carriage thither	0 1 9
The Coron'r charges when Mr Blodwell's man was killed in the absence of Sir John Trevor beinge then Coronor of the s'd towne	0 4 0
Paid the Beedles wages for that yeare	1 6 8
Paid Edward Morris for paveinge about the Crosse	0 7 6
For filliuge up the great hole that was upon the Bailey head	0 1 6
For a post letter from Mr Clayman about the Schoole concernes	0 0 3

	£	s.	d.
A Messing'r to him upon the same concerns...	0	2	6
Charges in sending Anne Wilcox, the mad woman, away to Salop	0	4	0
The Second time	0	3	6
For a Grate in the Excheq'r and Settinge the same up	0	2	10
Paid the high Constables foure Quarterly payments for the Gaole house of correction and maimed souldiers beinge	2	17	8
Paid for a Lock for the Stocks	0	1	2
For a table frame for the Exch'q'r	1	5	0
To Stephen Lloyd for poolinge downe and settinge up the same	0	2	6
For paveinge att the Betritch Gate	0	2	7
For a piece of Wood under the Bridge... ..	0	1	0
For paveinge beyond the New Gate	0	2	0
Paid Mr Joseph Rogers for Tendinge the Clocke	0	10	0
Paid Mr Humphrey Ffoulkes moneys which hee had heretofore laid out for the use of the towne... ..	0	14	5
For the makeinge of a coshon, fithers and makeinge	0	5	2
For fringe for the same	0	1	0
For Cloth to cover the same	0	3	6
For seven yeards of Cloathe for a carpett for the Excheq'r Table	1	4	6
Paid Edward Rogers and William Price	3	5	6
Payd for all ye O'tres of ye Last Sessions of Parlement endinge ye 15th Octob'r, '76	0	4	6
P'd for the othar lifell charter booke	0	7	6

41 10 10

Rec'd as bakwards 40 19 1

Paid as appears 41 10 10

Rest to be borne... .. 0 11 9

(To be continued.)

EXTRAORDINARY SCENES AT CHESTER.—THE MOBILITY V. THE NOBILITY.—I find the following in the *English Chronicle* for October 31, 1809. The reference to "The Pit of Covent Garden" is explained by the frequent and sometimes tumultuous protests which about that time were made at Covent Garden Theatre against the management of John Kemble :—

We are here all in a state of the most dreadful disorder, owing to the opposition between the citizens and Lord Grosvenor, at the head of the Corporation in the election for a new Mayor. The Pit of Covent Garden Theatre holds no comparison with the Town Hall as it appeared yesterday, so great was the clamour and uproar of the mobility in opposition to the nobility. They tore down the culprits bar, and the benches round the court table. In short, I never beheld such a scene. It continued with increased violence until the period for transacting business expired, and the Court adjourned to nine o'clock this day, when the business respecting the Mayor was disposed of, by putting up Mr Evans, his Lordship's choice, and Mr Seller, the popular candidate. Mr Evans was elected by a majority of the Corporate Body.—The election of Sheriff, which does not rest with the Corporation, is strongly contested, on the one side, however, only by canvassing, and without much system; but his Lordship's friends have opened sixty-eight public houses, giving away thousands of ribbons. Five or six hundred of that side pervade the streets, and completely overpower the independent freemen. The shops round the Exchange, and in

North-Gate-street, have been shut all the day, though market day. It is to be feared that the business may end in mischief. What is most singular in all this is, that these proceedings should be carried on under the pretence of supporting the interests of a respectable Nobleman, who once brought a Bill into Parliament to prevent treating at elections.

W.O.

MR. MYTTON'S RENT ROLL FOR 1787.

Continued, (July 6, 1887.)

Notes not in the original are placed in parentheses. Original observations in brackets.]

SHREWSBURY ESTATE.

Half a year's Rent due Cands, 1787.

<i>Tenants.</i>	<i>Holdings.</i>	£	s.	d.
TOWN OF SHREWSBURY.				
Peter Blakeway—A House and Warehouse near the Market House, by Lease		0	16	0
Jane Higgins, wid.—A House &c., near Do... ..		0	10	0
Tennant Lacy—A House and Shop near Do... ..		0	10	0
Elizabeth Lloyd—Do. on Wyle Cop		0	4	0
SAINT MARY'S PARISH.				
CASTLE-FORGATE.				
Edmund Hussey—Jennywood's Wells to Cands., 1785		0	0	0
Rees Williams—Do. since.....		14	10	0
John Nelson—Farther Child's Field.....		7	10	0
John Tudor—Two near Do.		15	0	0

COTTON HILL.

Mrs Windsor—Russell Croft	2	15	0
Bold Oliver—Cotton Field	9	10	0
George Taylor—Hencot Stile	3	10	0
Thos. Grissell—Swine's Dale to Cands., 1784..			
James Bennett—Do. since	6	0	0
Thos. Lloyd Anwyl—Peartree Hills, (? near Bird in Hand)	8	0	0
Nathaniel Hughes—Two Windmill Fields	8	0	0
Corbett Walton—Tenches Field.....	7	0	0
Thomas Tudor—Chapel Yard.....	6	0	0
John Maddock—Wet Meadow and Coney Green (now Stations)	12	0	0
Nathaniel Hughes—Garlick Croft.....	1	10	0
Ralph Vernon, Esqr.—The Bank	10	0	0
Rev. Mr Waring—The Peat Moss	1	10	0
John Maddock—Triangle and Moss Fields.....	12	0	0

SAINT CHADDS' PARISH.

FRANKWELL.

Mary Dunn—Silks Meadow (now adjoining New-street, formerly a market garden between and river)	0	0	0
John Probert—Garry's Piece	5	10	0
Robert Hudson—Bull o' the Barn Piece and Bishop's Land	6	10	0
..... Vaughan, W'o.—Little B'p's Land and Hovel	15	0	0
Richard Harries—Far Do.	3	0	0
William Harries, late } Browne's Meadow	7	10	0
Thos. Bromfield	6	0	0
Thomas Lee—Pit Leasow & Ball's Butts, near Bowling Green.....	12	0	0
John Purslow—Hovel Field	9	0	0
John Howell—Two Hayes Acres	12	10	0
Samuel Heath—Barn Piece and Croft.....	16	0	0
William Heyward—Gorsty Bank (between Cut-throat Lane and Shelton Lane)	10	10	0
James Mason, Esqr.—Near Russel Field	5	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Thomas Lee—Great Do.	6	0	0
Henry Bevan, Esqr.—Far Do.	5	0	0
John Flint—Two Farther Do.	5	15	0
James Wilding, late } Russell Field Meadow	2	5	0
William Davies			
Thomas Hughes—East Raddlebrook Field	9	0	0
The Executors of the late John Ashby, Esqr. —Gooseland (near Bowbrook)	12	0	0
Peter Blakeway—Little Doctor's Meadow	3	0	0
Wm. Haycock—Near Do.	3	0	0
Thomas Gittins—Middle Do.	3	10	0
John Scott—Far Do.	4	10	0
Edward Tipton—A Garden	0	15	0
Thomas Wilding—Near Monk Eye (Rill, Cut- throat Lane)	12	10	0
Edward Tipton—Far Ditto	12	0	0
Richd. Wilding—Two Monks Eyes	16	15	0
Robert Hodson—Rowton Field	8	5	0
Joseph Field—Sparke's Field	6	0	0
James Leake—Part of the Monk Eyes, part in Crowmeol Township	11	15	0
Richard Wilding—The other part of Do., part in Do.	7	5	0
CROWMEOL.			
John Probert—Cophorn House and Land	20	0	0
Walter Tench—Lands, part of Cophorn Farm Do.	17	10	0
Geo. Bean & Wm. Birch, late Phillip Heath— Goosehall Farm (beyond Bowbridge) [Mr Probert agrees to allow Mr Bean the price of a ton of poles for Building at Goosehall out of Midsummer payment] ...	45	0	0
Robert Bates—A Piece of Land, part of Do. ...	3	0	0
Wm. Tayleur, Esqr.—Lea's Leasow and part of Thieves' Lane	8	0	0
... Sutton Surgeon—Little Meadow and part of Do.	3	10	0
Robt. & Chas. Lloyd—Hovel Field	5	0	0
John Wynne—Part of Big Meadow and Part of Thieves' Lane	7	10	0
Richard Dyke—Other part of Do.	4	5	0
Sarah Williams—White Field	4	0	0
John Wilding—Band Field	8	0	0
Edward Jones—Two Salmon Fields	7	15	0
John Harrison—Well Meadow	7	10	0
Thomas Young—Coat Leasow	7	10	0
Richard Scott—West Raddlebrook Field	7	0	0
John Wilding—The Mill Dam	9	0	0
James Mason, Esqr.—Crawford Meadow	5	0	0
Edward Tipton—Crowmeol Field	5	0	0
John Rawlings, Crowmeol Piece	4	0	0
Samuel Cooke—Hatters Field	9	0	0
James Nicholas—Green Leasow	5	10	0
Thomas Lateward's Representatives—Gorsty Leasow	7	0	0
SHELTON.			
Samuel Urwick—Shelton Farm	50	0	0
Thomas Edwards—The Foxholes	7	10	0
Ann Price, Widow—Wet Reans	10	0	0
Mrs Corfield—Little Do.	8	0	0
Samuel Lee—Greater Shelton Field	8	0	0
John Bather—Lesser Do.	6	0	0
Edwd. Littlehales—Part of a Garden	0	5	0
BICTON.			
Nath. Garmston—The Grange Farm	40	0	0
Richd. Jenkins, Esq.—Part of the Grange Farm Do.	25	0	0
part of said Farm	1	10	0
£833 15 0			

SMALL TENEMENTS IN THE MANORS OF MONK-MEOL
AND BICTON.

*A Year's Rent
due Lady-day,
1787.*

<i>Tenants.</i>	<i>Holdings.</i>	<i>MONK-MEOL.</i>	£	s.	d.
John Probert, Assignee of Samuel Urwick— Heath Close (? near Sam Poole's House) ...			0	2	0
Thomas Hill—A Cottage and Garden			0	5	0
Evan Jones—A Cottage and Land			0	10	0
Owen Phillips—A Cottage, Barn, Garden, and Land			1	0	0
Elizabeth Williams—A Cottage, Garden, and Land			0	5	0
Marjery Pryce, W'o.—The east end of a Cottage, with three Closets			0	10	0
Cath. Pryce, W'o.—The west end of Do., with four Closets			0	10	0
John Probert—A Cottage, Garden, and Land, occupied by his Miller			0	10	0
Alice Tisdale's Representatives—Arrears for Do.			0	0	0
Thomas Younge—Part of late Edward Wheeler's Land			0	10	0
John Probert—Other part of Do.			0	10	0
Mary Ecclesea—A Cottage in the Corner of Wheeler's Close			0	5	0
John Probert—The Hole Cottage and Land ...			1	15	0
Do. A Cottage and Garden at Cophorn On Hand—A Piece of Land between the Horse Course and Hole Cottage, sown with Acorns			0	0	0
BICTON.					
Thomas Townes, Esq.—Three Inclosures			2	0	0
John Mansell—One Inclosure and part of another			4	0	0
Edward Edwards—A new Cottage and Land ...			0	10	0
David Morgan—A Cottage, part of a Garden, and Land			1	0	0
Thomas Lewis—A Close, late David Morgan's John Tudor—A Cottage, Weaving Room and Land			0	15	0
Thos. Loxdale, Esq.—A Cottage and Land			0	10	0
Richd. Davies—A Cottage, Garden and Land ...			1	5	0
Humpy, Mansell—Do.			0	10	0
Joseph Mansell—Do.			0	10	0
John Wright—The White Ball Alehouse, Garden, and Land			2	0	0
Samuel Smith—The east end of John Davies's Cottage & Land			0	5	0
John Davies, Sawyer—The west end of Do. with a Garden and 2 Closets			0	10	0
John Davies—Two Cottages and Land			2	0	0
Thomas Antley—A Cottage, Garden, and Land			2	0	0
Ann Mantley, W'o.—A Cottage, Garden, and Land			1	0	0
John Richards—A Cottage, Garden, and Land			1	0	0
John Edwards—A Cottage and Lands			1	0	0
Richard Parrock—A House, Garden, and Land			4	10	0
John Richards's W'o.—A House, Garden, and Land			0	5	0
Robert Rogers—A House, Garden, and Land ...			0	10	0
Samuel Roberts—Do.			1	1	0
Representatives of the late Robt. Morris—A House, Garden, and Land			1	0	0
John Fallow—A Cottage, Cowhouse, Barn, and Land			1	10	0
John Probert—A Close adjoining the new Pool Dam			0	15	0
Richard Davies—A Cottage, Barn, Garden, and Land			4	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Forrester—The new Pool Dam and the Allotment of Land round it to Lady day, 1785	0	0	0
Richd. Morhall, Esqr.—The new Pool Dam... ..	4	0	0
Mr. Smith—Land round Do.	12	0	0
Rowld. Wingfield, Esq.—Lands late Davies's, & a Watering Place	4	0	0
John Barbar—Nagshead Alehouse and Garden at Montford's Bridge	0	2	6
Elizth. Moody, Wid.—A House, Shop, and small Garden.....	0	10	0
The Reps. of the late Richd. Littlehales—A House and Garden	0	5	0
John Probert—A Morass proposed for a Pool to be fed from that in the holding of Mrs. Forrester (Morhall).....	0	10	0

£62 16 6

THE PARISH AND MANOR OF HABBERLEY.

<i>Tenants.</i>	<i>Holdings.</i>	<i>Half a year's Rent due Candl's, 1797.</i>	£	s.	d.
HABBERLEY.					
Richard Burley—Hall Farm			62	10	0
John Thompson—East Farm			50	0	0
Richard Burley—Middle Farm			40	0	0
The Representatives of the late John Glover—Arms. for Do. due Candlemas, 1784			0	0	0
Thomas Morris—East Middle Farm			20	0	0
Do. —Vaughan's Land			3	0	0
Richard Burley—Taylor's Meadow			2	10	0
William Bromley—Marsley Farm.....			23	10	0
Thomas Williams—Habberley Mill			5	0	0
Richard Spencer—Part of late Higgins's House, &c.			3	0	0
Samuel Grice—A House late Widow Foxes ...			0	10	0
The Parish of Habberley—A House and Garden			0	10	0
Humpty Crockett—A House and Land			2	0	0
Thomas Evans—A House and Garden with Lands late Edward Higley's.....			1	12	6
Edward Higley—A House and Close			1	17	6

PARISH OF PULVERBATCH.

Robert Jones—Presley Farm	16	0	0
£232 0 0			

HALSTON ESTATE IN THE COUNTY OF SALOP.

<i>Tenants.</i>	<i>Holdings.</i>	<i>Half a year's Rent due Lady-Day, 1787.</i>	£	s.	d.
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HALSTON AND WHITTINGTON PARISHES.

On Hand—Halston, House, Offices, Gardens, Pleasure Grounds, Woods, and Waters ...	0	0	0
Mrs Mytton—Part of the Demesne	65	0	0
John Marsh—Lands other part of Do.	10	0	0
Walter Broughall—Do. other part of Do.	10	0	0
Do. —Kinshall Farm.....	75	0	0
John Pugh—Halston Farm, adjoining Kinnerley Church, and a Tenement late Payne's	9	0	0

WHITTINGTON PARISH.

FRANKTON TOWNSHIP.

John Marsh—Evenall Farm with new Evenall Tenement in Halston	55	0	0
Richard Jones—Maestermyn Farm and Lower Ridge Meadow	20	10	0
Richard Jones—Lands had in exchange from Mr. Kynaston of Hardwick, Mr. Lloyd of Aston, and Mr. Edwards	10	10	0

Edward Pritchard—Henhafod Farm & Lands, inclosed from the Common	42	0	0
Edward Venables—A Tenement.....	0	2	6
Do. Two Inclosures from the Common	2	5	0

LOWER RIDGE.

Mary Wynne—Farthing-lane Cottage & Close	0	5	0
BERGHILL.			
John Thomas (late John Rogers)—A Farm.....	83	10	0
John Morris—A Farm, with the Double Gates, & Studleys, Meadows, and Spertal Lands in Halston	89	0	0
Thomas Humphreys—A farm, late Pritchard's six Inclosures from Frankton Com'on	26	5	0
William Morris,—Part of Ethelston's Farm, and land had in exchange from Mr Lloyd of Berghill	27	0	0
Thomas Harper—A tenement, late part of Ethelston's Farm.....	1	5	0
William Pearce—A Farm purchased of Mr Kynaston	10	0	0

(WHITTINGTON.)

Willm. Grindley—Babeswood & Ty Mawr Farm	70	0	0
John Williams—A House and Garden, with three meadows, called Gaynor's, Jones's, and Cae Gwenith	5	0	0
Richard Brown—A Tenement on Babeswood... ..	0	2	6
Joseph Wild—A Tenement on Do. with part of the new Inclosures	5	0	0
Hugh Peter, late Richard Hitchen—Part of a House, Garden, & Land.....	1	15	0
Cath. Vaughan—Other part of Do. to L. day, 1785	0	0	0
Mary Lewis—Do. since	0	12	0
Elizabeth Price—A House and Garden	1	10	0
John Parry, late John Boodle—Do.	1	5	0
Mrs Susanh. Roberts—The Castle Brook and other Meadows.....	6	10	0
John Morris—A Cottage and Garden	0	2	6
Hugh Roberts—Do.	0	5	0
Edwd. Williams, assignee of Thos. Vaughan—Do.	0	2	6
William Evans—Six Dwelling Houses, Gardens, &c., with Bryn, Yewtree, Lower and Boat Meadows, and Bates's Land near Drenewydd, with two Meadows near Halston Garden	21	0	0
Joseph Lee—A House and Garden	0	15	0
Margaret Evans—Do.	1	0	0
Elizabeth Grindley—Part of Norcot House and Garden, with part of Peat's Meadow	2	5	0
Richd. Nicholas—Other part of Do. and Land	4	0	0
Joseph Broughal—Donnatt's Farm, a Meadow, late Mr Roberts's, and Gravenall Tenement	61	10	0
Thos. Burroughs—Norcot's Farm and Lands, with late Jones's Tenement	38	0	0
Ann Williams, w/o—A House and Garden	0	2	6
John Jones—A House and Croft	2	10	0
John Jones—Lands, part of Whittington Glebs, had in exchange from the Rector	1	11	6
HINDFORD.			
John Rees—A House and Garden, by Lease ...	0	10	0
Do. Part of Richd. Richard's late Tenement & Lands inclosed from the Common... ..	1	10	0
Roger Jones—A Piece of Land in the corner of the Common with part of the new Inclosure	3	0	0
Ann Jones—Coedy House and Garden	0	2	6
Elizabeth Richards—Do.	0	5	0
Walter Broughall, late Thos. Burroughs—Two Pieces of Land inclosed from the Common	3	10	0

	£	s.	d.
On Hand—Part of the new Inclosure	0	0	0
Richard Richards—A House and Garden had in exchange from Mr Lloyd of Aston	0	5	3
William Thomas— Do., Do.	0	5	3
Elizabeth Evans, w'o— Do., Do.	0	5	3
David Hughes— Do., Do.	0	5	3
Jane Williams, w'o— Do., Do.	0	5	3
John Eyton—Arr's for a Do., due L. Day, 1784	0	0	0
Richard Gough— Do., since	1	1	0
Patrick Row—A House and Garden, purchased of Samuel Phillips to L. D., 1786	0	0	0
Thos. Arnold Jones—Do. from that day	0	10	0
Edward Teggin—Arrears for Do., due Lady Day, 1784	0	0	0

PARISH OF OSWESTRY.

TOWN OF OSWESTRY.

William Martin—A House and Garden in Betterice-street.....	1	1	0
Heirs of Thos. Vernon—Do., Do., in Leg-street	0	0	0
On Hand—Cross Keys Inn and Land	0	0	0
Arthur Davies—Cross Keys Land	15	0	0
Richard Moreton—Maes yr Arglwydd, Folly Field, and Banky Field.....	21	8	0
Richard Bickerton, assignee of the Rev. John Jeffries—Part of the Llwyn Ground.....	25	10	0
Willm. Ethelston—A House and Garden, other part of Do.	2	10	0
Edward Hughes—Cae Pant, part of the Cross Keys Land.....	9	0	0

SWINNEY.

Thomas Sides—Arr's for Drill Farm, to L. Day, 1786	0	0	0
Robt. Berkley—A Croft at Drill.....	0	0	0

MIDDLETON.

William Jones—A House & two Crofts on the Common	0	0	0
John Evans and James Butler—Middleton Farm	40	0	0
John Tomley—A road thro' part of Do.	0	1	3

PARISH OF WESTFELTON.

Thomas Bill, late Edward Davies—Arr's for Haughton Farm to	0	0	0
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£887 16 0

QUERIES.

THE YOUNG ROSCIUS.—In the *English Chronicle* for October 31, 1809, I read that "Mr Betty, the father of the celebrated Young Roscius, has purchased a valuable estate near Shrewsbury, upon which he now resides." Which estate was it? W.O.

MERIONETH COUNTY, FORMATION OF.—When was this county constructed or formed? Is it one of those settled by the Statute of Rhuddlan? And what were its limits on the Montgomeryshire side before the formation of the latter county. Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* who has access to the Public Statutes say? Z.

REPLIES.

ABERTANNAN IN MERIONETHSHIRE (July 27, 1887).—I feel sure that Abertannan is referred to elsewhere than in Mr Breese's work as being once a part of Merionethshire. Had it been spoken of as being a part of the Marches of Wales I could understand the proba-

bility of its being annexed to Salop; but I have no recollection of seeing any account of a parcel of Montgomeryshire, itself partly formed of the lands which constituted the Welsh Marches, being afterwards detached from the then newly-formed county of Montgomery, and joined to Shropshire. BONWM.

CURRENT NOTES.

It is stated that the movement to restore and enlarge the tower on Moel Famau in honour of the Jubilee has collapsed from want of funds sufficient to meet the expense. The amount required was £2,000, and only £600 subscriptions was received.

On Wednesday afternoon, the first annual exhibition of fine arts in connection with the Grosvenor Museum at Chester was opened in the theatre of the Museum. Mr Baillie explained that it was an art loan collection of pictures illustrative of modern art, and an artists' sale exhibition. It was intended to carry it on somewhat on the lines of the exhibitions of Manchester and Liverpool. They had 325 pictures, which represented 140 artists. The High Sheriff, Mr Tomkinson, opened the exhibition.

The inscription on Dr Pierce's monument, at Denbigh, has been placed on the square facing the entrance gate. The other three sides of the square have been filled in with bas-reliefs, being wrought figures representing the following: Mercy interceding with Justice, Healing the Sick, and Feeding the Hungry. The inscription is as follows:—

Erected by public subscription in honour of EVAN PIERCE, Esq., M.D. St. and F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.S.A. Lond., M.F.P. and S. Glasg., her Majesty's Coroner for the County of Denbigh, alderman of Denbigh, a justice of the peace, and for five successive years Mayor of the borough. As a magistrate, an able and just administrator of the law. As a coroner, independent and unflinching in the discharge of his duties. As a physician and surgeon, learned and skilful. As a man, ever ready to do good unto all, to the poor and lowly, as well as to the rich, and mighty. In season of great peril, as during the cholera epidemic of 1832, intrepid and devoted in his attendance on the sufferers. Conspicuous both as a contributor and co-operator in educational, public, and charitable undertakings. Indeed in every sense a philanthropist, patriot, and a Christian. The foundation stone of this monument was laid by the Lord Lieutenant of Denbighshire, on the 22nd December, 1874. The statue was unveiled by SIR WILLIAM GRENVILLE WILLIAMS, Bart., of Bodolwyddan, on the 23rd November, 1876

DEATH OF LORD DELAMERE.—Lord Delamere died at Vale Royal, Cheshire, on Monday, in the seventy-sixth year of his age. He leaves a widow, a son, and a daughter. The deceased Earl succeeded to the title in 1855. He sat in Parliament as a Conservative for Denbighshire from 1840 to 1841, and for Montgomery Boroughs during the years 1841-7. In 1848 he married Lady Sarah Hay (who died in 1859), daughter of the tenth Earl of Kinnoull, and in 1860 Augusta Emily, the eldest daughter of the Right Hon. Sir G. Hamilton Seymour.

THE BONFIRES IN SALOP.

We have received from Colonel Edgell, Chief Constable of Shropshire, a return of bonfires, &c., lighted in the County of Salop in honour of Her Majesty's Jubilee. They were as follows:—Clive Hill, Haughmond Hill, Grinshill Hill, Cynr-y-bwch, Selattyn Hill, Hodnet Hill, Hawkestone Hill, Stychy, The Warley, Sandy Lane, Ash Magna, Woore Hill, Horsehay (bonfire and electric light), Ketley Bank, Lilleshall Hill, Paddock Bank, Tong Knoll, Wrekin Hill, Woodhouse, Neuers Hill, Lutwyche, Cleeton Hill, Broseley,

Barrow, Medley Hill, Brown Clee Hill, Tinkers Castle, Romsley Hill, Meadow Pit, Hermitage Hill, St. Leonard's Church Tower (electric light), Mose, The Haddons Hill, Burway Bank, Ragleth Hill, Hope Bowdler Hill, Caradoc, Hockall, Little Stretton, Mogg Forest, Colebatch Hill, Dudley Hill, Aston Hill, Clunbury Hill, Burrow Camp, Onions Hill, Stow Hill, The Camp, Chapel Lawn, Hopton Park, Black Hill, Bury Ditches, Oakeley Mynd, The Riddings, Llanvairwater-dine Hill, Burfield Hill, Vron Hill, Garn Rock, Black Mountain, Bent Hill, Pontesford Hill, Westbury Hill, Stiperstones Hill, Aston Hill, Lyth Hill, Corndon Mountain (County Montgomery, lighted by Shropshire inhabitants), Titterstone, Clee Hill 2 (electric light), Whitbatch, Whitcliff, Stokewood, Monument, Craven Arms, Abdon, Kinlet Park, and The Dowles. The total number of fires was 72.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL VISIT TO OSWESTRY, WHITTINGTON, ELLESMERE, AND COCKSHUTT.

On Friday a party of members of the Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society had an excursion, on which they started from Oswestry. Most of the party arrived from Shrewsbury at eleven in the morning, and they at once went to the Guildhall, where they were greatly interested in an examination of the Corporation plate and records, which were described to them by the Town Clerk, Mr Parry-Jones. Papers referring to the manuscripts have been contributed to the Society's *Transactions* by Mr Stanley Leighton, M.P., and notes on the Corporation plate made by Mr Wilfrid Cripps, an eminent authority on such subjects, have recently appeared in *Bye-Gones*. The Castle Bank was the next place visited, and here the Vicar gave a summary of the history of the Castle which stood on the spot, and added that the one doubtful point was whether the hill was an artificial mound or not. Mr Drinkwater suggested that the matter would be solved by running a tunnel through the hill, but the Vicar replied that it would be a pity to accelerate the natural process of disintegration. He added that an inventory was made in the time of Richard II., which showed that the castle included a chapel dedicated to St. Nicholas, but as the hill now remaining was only the keep of the Castle, the chapel must have been situated in the direction of what was now called the Castle Fields. The party next went on to St. Oswald's Well, where a few moments were spent, a discussion taking place as to whether the arch was Norman. Mr Parry-Jones mentioned the tradition that if any lady drank of the well, and at the same time, entertained a wish, the wish would be fulfilled; but none of the ladies present showed their faith in the tradition, and the party went to the parish church. Here the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Howell Evans, acted as guide, and when the company had assembled in the church, he read an interesting paper prepared and read by himself before the members of the Cambrian Archæological Society, who paid a visit to the church in August, 1879. The paper is re-printed in *Bye-Gones*. The Vicar added that the original intention was obviously to put a spire on the tower, for the tower contained arches for the spring of the spire. Referring to the north transept, which is now being put in, the Vicar said that in digging for the foundations, the foundations of a wall extending some distance northwards—far beyond what they were building at present—were found. There was no trace of a corresponding wall on the west side of the transept, but

that might be accounted for by the fact that the ground was all occupied by graves. The party then examined the door leading from the nave into the tower, and the opinion seemed to prevail that the arch itself was Norman, but that the pillars had been replaced. The Vicar also drew attention to the old oak chest close by, from which tradition said Cromwell's horses ate their oats. After examining the church, the party went into the vestry where they examined the church plate, which has also been described in *Bye-Gones* recently, by Mr Wilfrid Cripps. Carriages were then brought into requisition, and the party drove to Old Oswestry over which they were conducted by Lord Harlech's head keeper. Old Oswestry or Hen Ddinas, is a fine camp, one of the long line of military works on the Welsh border which confronted the Roman general, Ostorius Scapula. It is an oblong parallelogram with an interior area of fourteen acres, now bearing a flourishing crop of oats, and on the west side it has five lines of circumvallation, two of which entirely encircle the top. There were three gates of entrance, on the east, west, and north sides. At the entrance Mr Dovaston explained that still more anciently Hen Ddinas was called *Caer Ogyrfan*; it was a natural bank, having a sudden ascent on all sides, with a deep triple entrenchment on the top of it. Tradition says that Ogyrfan had a castle there, and that he was the father of Guinevere, the wife of King Arthur, who lay buried with the British King at Glastonbury Abbey. In making the circuit of the camp the great height of the outer entrenchment on the west side, notwithstanding the disintegrating influences of time, was pointed out and admired, and within this entrenchment, or rather between it and the second one, three or four pools were pointed out, and it was suggested that they were provided for the refreshment of cattle at such times as, for various reasons, it might be deemed advisable to keep them within the entrenchments. Mr Drinkwater mentioned that in 1767 the crop of timber grown on the camp, which altogether is about forty-five acres in extent, was sold for £1,700, and that the walls would contain a thousand men.

At the Oldport the carriages were again joined, and the party drove to Park Hall, the seat of Mr A. Wynne Corrie. Park Hall is an interesting half-timbered mansion of the sixteenth century. The stoppage here was very brief, as the exterior only could be inspected.

The next stoppage was at the interesting old Castle of Whittington. Here Mr Dovaston read a paper, in which he said Whittington was known as far back as the year 590, when Llywarch Hen, the Welsh poet, said it was called the White town, Drev-wen. In the time of Roderick the Great, King of Wales, A.D. 843, Ynyr ap Cadfarch, a British nobleman, built, chiefly of wood, the Castle of Whittington. He was succeeded by his son Tudor Trevor, who, though possessed of many palaces, made this his chief residence. The descendants of Tudor possessed the castle for several generations. In 1060 it became the property of Payn Peveril, and he having no issue it was seized on his decease by Roger, Earl of Shrewsbury. The place was called in Domesday Book *Whititone*. On the forfeiture of Robert de Belesme, Earl of Shrewsbury, in the reign of Henry I., it was restored to the family of Peveril, in the person of William, a sister's son of Payn Peveril. The story went that Guarine de Metz, Sheriff of Shropshire, a noble Lorrainer—his mother was Gundreda, daughter of William I.—won the affections of Mellet, daughter of Sir William, then lord of Whittington, on account of his gallant behaviour at a tournament held at Peveril's Castle, in Derbyshire; there he overthrew his rivals, and obtained the hand of the beautiful Mellet, and Whittington Castle as her dower. Gaarine

de Metz was a benefactor of the monks, and founded the New (White) Abbey in the parish of Alberbury, where he was buried in the reign of Henry I. The posterity of this man, for nine generations, assumed the Christian name of Fulk; their common name was Fitzguarine. Fulk, the son of Guarine de Metz, who was heroic in all his achievements, was knighted by Henry I., made Steward of the King's Household, and Lieutenant of the Marches, and it was this which gave him the name Fulco or Fulk, signifying lieutenant. The Welsh, in their frequent incursions, drove Fulk from the Castle, Owen Gwynedd gained possession of the lordship, and it appeared from a peace made by Henry II., that it was given to Roger de Powis. It was restored to Fulk by King John, and was then re-built and completely fortified, and never again taken from its possessors. Out of the refuse materials Fitzguarine built a chapel, which afterwards became the parish church. The last Fulk died in his minority, and the male line of this noble race closed. The castle afterwards, by exchange, became the property of Henry VIII., by whom it was presented to Henry Grey, Duke of Suffolk, who lost it by forfeiture. Queen Mary granted the castle to Fitz Alan, Earl of Arundel, who mortgaged it to a number of London citizens, who obtained the place in default of payment. William Albany, merchant tailor, was put into sole possession of it, and by the marriage of his great granddaughter with Thomas Lloyd it passed into the Aston family. The keep was strongly fortified with five round towers, each forty feet in diameter, and a hundred feet in height, and the walls were twelve feet thick. The towers of the gatehouse are still entire, and some portions of the ancient building have been converted into a dwelling. The keep is now used as a garden, and at the north corner is the well. The ancient British earth works, fosses, and entrenchments may yet be traced westward of the castle. The late Mr J. F. M. Dovaston in his poem of Fitz Guarine thus contrasted the ancient and present state of the castle:—

In ancient days of high renown
Not always did yon castle frown
With ivy-crested brow;
Nor were its walls with moss embrown'd,
Nor hung the lanky weeds around
That fringe its ruins now.
Other hangings deck'd the wall,
Where now the nodding foxgloves tall,
Their spotty hoods unfold;
Harebells there with bugloss vie,
And gilliflowers of yellow dye
Seem now, to musing Fancy's eye
To mock the mimic tapestry
That flaunted there of old.

The party then went to the keep, and in passing the only remaining tower Mr Dovaston explained the meaning of a mysterious iron-bound door by saying it was placed thereby the last rector of the name of Lloyd, and that since his death the key could not be found. Mr Lloyd had not taken the key with him, but he had left it where no one could find it. On reaching the keep Mr Dovaston explained that if, in the course of gardening operations, a man were too vigorous in the use of the spade, it was very apt to strike the foundation of the keep. Much of the stone of the keep had, during a thrifty minority, been removed for use elsewhere. The well referred to is now filled up, but Mr Dovaston said it was cleared out in 1806, when some bronze bottles, branched antlers, and iron gyves, very much worn, were found. He had some of the bottles, and the gyves were at Aston, but he did not know what had become of the antlers. The drawbridge was situated near the remaining tower of the keep, and there is a mound which corresponds with it. A little to one hand Mr

Dovaston pointed out an ancient mound, what was now known as a belan. On the south he pointed out two very deep entrenchments, which were called runtings, a word the application of which might tax their ingenuity. Before leaving, Mr Dovaston pointed out the brook which feeds the moat, and mentioned that the stream was subterranean for more than two miles. The usefulness of such a supply of water, only coming to light within the Castle precincts, is obvious.

The journey was again resumed, and on reaching Ellesmere the first place visited was the church, where the party was received by the Vicar, the Rev. John Peake. In the interior of the church the Vicar mentioned that previously to the last restoration of the church in 1850 the nave was a short one, and that in digging the foundations for the new portion the old foundations of the octagonal tower of what was evidently an old Norman church were found, so that the church in Norman times would have a west tower. Previously to the restoration there were four Norman columns on the left of the nave, but unfortunately three of them were removed, but one, which was now near the pulpit, was preserved. The transepts and chancel, which were Perpendicular, were built by the Knights Hospitalers of St. John. As far as he could make out from the history of Ellesmere manor, the town and manor were given by King John to Llewelyn as a portion with his natural daughter Joan; and Joan was said to have had a hunting-box by the side of Hanmer Mère called Plas Shonnett. Henry III. took them from Llewelyn, and in revenge Llewelyn, about 1230, burnt the town, and probably the church suffered at the same time. The tracery in the chancel window was most likely the actual tracery of the old window, but the glass now in it was put in in 1820. In the chapel on the south of the chancel the Vicar pointed out the roof, which was the great feature of the chapel; but all he was able to tell them was that the roof must have been put in during the time the Stanley family held the manor, for the three legs and other bits of the Stanley quarterings were carved on the bosses. The Stanley family came into the property through the marriage of Joan, the daughter of Sir John Le Strange, last Baron of Knockin and Ellesmere, with George Stanley, eldest son of Thomas, first Earl of Derby, in 1477. Referring to a stunted recumbent figure which has been placed upright in the wall, the Vicar said the figure was found embedded in the south wall. He consulted Mr Bloxam about it, and Matthew Bloxam said he thought it was about the date of Edward IV., his reasons for that conclusion being that on the top of the tunic buttons and other things were found. The Rev. C. H. Drinkwater said the figure evidently represented a clericus, because it had an ink horn and a pen. Mr Peake said the chapel was called St. Anne's Chancel as late as the end of the seventeenth century, but now it was called the Oteley Chapel, because it contained the tomb of Sir Francis and Lady Kynaston of Oteley, the former of whom died in 1590. There was a sort of story, for the truth of which he could not vouch, to the effect that the mother of Henry VII. was married to Lord Derby as his second or third wife. When Sir William Stanley was condemned to be beheaded by Henry VII. Lord and Lady Derby pleaded earnestly for his life, and when their prayers proved ineffectual Lady Derby built three mortuary chapels, one of which was at Holt, and it was said that the St. Ann's Chancel was very much the same as the chapel at Holt. The chapel contains a very curious chair, and some discussion arose as to the wood of which the roof is composed, some strongly contending that it was oak of a possibly extinct species, while others said it was of Spanish chesnut. The Vicar also pointed out one of the

arches which separated the chapel from the chancel, and suggested that its carving, more elaborate than is the case with the other arches, indicated that it led into a mortuary chapel or shrine. The arch is exactly as it was before the restoration. The screen, which divides the chapel from the transept, was also examined closely, the rude carving of the panel nearest to the chancel—which the Vicar said was the oldest portion of the screen, the other divisions being copies of it—seeming to indicate that it was done with a hatchet, or, at any rate, with very imperfect tools. Mr Auden said he thought the work was late fourteenth or fifteenth century work, and Mr Peake said that would be about the time when the central tower would be thrown out. He thought they would not be wrong in ascribing the restoration to the reign of Edward IV., when the central tower, chancel, transepts, &c., were put in under the auspices of the Knights of St. John, who were located at Halston, were the patrons and rectors of the benefice, and whose presence was testified by the name "St. John's Hill." On the way to the Bowling Green the Vicar took the party through the Vicarage grounds, where he pointed out some stone carving taken from the church. The Bowling Green, a mound of large circumference, is the site of a former castle. The magnificent prospect is nearly shut out by the growth of timber on all sides. The party next went to the Town Hall, where, in a glass case, is carefully preserved a pre-historic canoe found in the course of draining operations in Whittall Moss, near Cockshutt, in 1872. The canoe, which has been varnished, is made from one tree, hollowed, and is in very good preservation, but there is a hole in one end of it.

The party then went to the Bridgewater Arms, where an admirable dinner was provided by Mr Lawrence. A little later the journey was resumed, the road taken being the direction of Cockshutt. Before reaching the village, however, a stoppage was made by Croesmere, and here some time was spent in the examination of an ancient place of refuge, which was pointed out by the Rev H. J. Wilcox. Mr Wilcox mentioned that Kenwick, which overlooks the mere, formerly belonged to the monks of Haughmond, and he pointed out that when the water of the mere was twenty feet higher than it is at present a piece of high ground, on which three or four hundred cattle might be kept, would be surrounded with water, with the exception of a narrow ridge running in the direction of Kenwick. In order to complete the defensive character of the position, the ridge was cut through, so enabling the water to surround the position, and this cutting, he pointed out, would probably be bridged. The party then penetrated the neighbouring wood, in order to examine a trench about twelve feet wide, running through boggy land, in which the canoe exhibited at Ellesmere was discovered. The journey to Shrewsbury was subsequently resumed.

The party included the Rev. T. and Miss Auden, Shrewsbury, the Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, Shrewsbury, the Rev. A. T. Pelham, Cound, Mr W. Phillips, F.L.S., Shrewsbury, Mr J. Randall, F.G.S., Madeley, the Rev. Canon Allen, Mr J. Dovaston, West-felton, the Misses Dovaston, Mr G. Griffiths, Weston-under-Lizard, Mr G. Sandford Corser, Miss Corser, Mr W. W. Whittaker, Manchester, Mr W. Lees McClure, Prescott, Mr Follitt Sandford, Shrewsbury, the Rev. H. J. Wilcox, Cockshutt, Mr and Mrs R. Taylor, Mr Luff, Shrewsbury, the Rev. J. G. Swainson, and Mr G. Sandford.

AUGUST 10, 1887.

NOTES.

WELSH PROVERBS.—In *Bye-Gones* for Jan. 12, 1887, the saying is quoted, that a good bargain refused

leads to bad luck. This reminds me of a good old Welsh proverb—"Yr edifeirwch [colloquial: 'difardod] goreu yw edifeirwch gwerthu,"—"The best regret is the regret for having sold." E.W.

Wrexham.

LEAD MINES IN CARDIGANSHIRE, 1621.—Among the MSS. of the Earl of Delawarr there is one, a petition of Matthew de Quester, who held Crown lands on lease in Cardiganshire. The lead got from them is only used for glazing abroad—if sold here it is only worth £3 per ton. The Custom charges 8s. per ton, he prays relief. Reference.—The auditors certify according to petition, and recommend 4s. per ton charges.—*His: MSS. Com. Report, 4, app., p. 316.*

Z.

CLIVE AND THE GAMBLER.—Clive was present at the bombardment of Madras in 1746, and became, on parole, the prisoner of La Bourdenais, and was one of those who were made a public spectacle by Dupleix when he violated the terms of the capitulation. Disguised as a native, he made his escape from Pondicherry, and on reaching Fort St. David, became a gentleman volunteer, and in that humble capacity gave proofs of the indomitable courage that inspired him. He once formed one of a party at play, whom two officers by ungentlemanly cheating contrived to fleece. The winners were noted duellists, so the other losers paid their money in silent rage; but Clive refused to follow their example, and taxed the players with knavery. He was challenged, went out to give his fire, upon which his adversary, quitting his ground, put his pistol to Clive's head, desired him to ask his life. Clive did so; but the bully now required that he should pay the sum he had lost, and retract what he had said. "And if I refuse," demanded Clive, "Then I fire," replied the other. "Fire, and be hanged," said Clive, coolly. "I still say you cheated; nor will I ever pay you." The gamester, struck with the bold bearing of his antagonist, called him a madman, and threw away his pistol. We must not finish this anecdote, continues Mr. Gleig, without recording Clive's conduct in the sequel. When complimented by his friends, he observed, "The man has given me my life, and I have no right in future to mention his behaviour at the card-table; though I shall certainly never pay him, nor associate with him again." J.

QUERIES.

A HISTORY OF WALES.—Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* say who John Jones, LL.D., and Barrister-at-law, was. He published a "History of Wales" (no date on frontispiece, but 10th September, 1824, at end of preface, James-place, Lower Road, Islington). The work was published by J. Williams, Ship Place, Strand, near Temple Bar. Is the work a well-known one?

A KELT.

AWST.—This, I believe, is the Welsh name for the month of August. The latter is an abbreviation of Augustus [Cæsar] as a compliment to whom, for having reduced Alexandria in Egypt, this month by a decree of the senate was ordered to be so called. Is *Aust* the Welsh equivalent for August, and, if so, is there no other name in Welsh by which the month is known?

Puzzled.

REPLIES.

REV. JOHN KENRICK (July 13, 1887).—Replying to MENTMORE I was quite right in saying that the Mr John Kenrick of Wynn Hall, who married Sarah Savage, was the grandson, not the great grandson, of the Rev. John Kenrick of Wrexham. MENTMORE is also quite right in his belief that the George Lewis, surgeon, who married Martha, one of the daughters of the above-named John Kenrick and Sarah Savage, was a son of the Rev. Dr. George Lewis, formerly minister of Pen-y-bryn Chapel, Wrexham.

And now I myself should like to ask a question about this family. I believe that I have somewhere heard or read that Mr Ralph Eddowes, so well known in the political history of Chester, married a Miss Kenrick of Wynn Hall. If this statement is correct, I shall be very glad of such particulars as would enable me to identify this Mrs Eddowes.

ALFRED N PALMER.

Wrexham.

WELSH BOROUGH TOWNS (July 20, 1887).—Criccieth, Carnarvonshire, can claim to be one of the earliest to receive the favourable notice of the Conquerors. Its Charter is dated from Cardigan, 22 November, 13 Edward I. [1285]; and, among other illustrious Witnesses to the royal Grant was Robert [Burnell] "Bishop of Bath and Wells, our Chancellor," from 1275 to 1292. The Borough and its Burgesses were declared free; the Constable for the time being of the Castle, however, to be Mayor of the Town; but the Burgesses were to appoint annually, from among themselves, two Bailiffs; and to have their own free prison for offenders, except in cases of life and limb, when the prison was to be that of the Castle; Burgesses, nevertheless, if the accused, were, on finding sureties for due appearance on the trial, to be liberated, and eventually tried by a Jury selected from among their fellow Burgesses. And they were not amenable to any claim or conviction, save royal interests, by foreigners from the Seiont to the Dyfi. They were granted their own Guild and Company of Merchants; no Jews were to continue for any time in the Borough; and any native (villain) holding land in it for the space of a year and a day was to be free and his Lord's claim on him to terminate. The charter was confirmed at Westminster 18 February 12 Rich. II. [1388-9]; at Kennington, by Prince Henry, 2 Henry IV. [1400-1]; at Westminster 27 Oct. 3 Henry VI. [1424] and again at Westminster 12 Mar. 9 Henry VII. [1493]. An official copy of the Charter of Edward I. and the original confirmatory Charter of Henry VII. were produced at Oswestry on 6th December, 1833, by the late Wm. Ormsby-Gore, Esq., who, in right of his wife, claimed to be hereditary Constable of the Castle, and, as a consequence, Mayor of the Town of Criccieth. The claim was made by reason of the well-known descent of Mrs Ormsby-Gore from the celebrated John ab Meredith of Ystumcegid (the former Llys Cefn y Fan, about 1 mile north of Criccieth), the "right trusty and well-beloved" of Henry, Earl of Richmond, on the latter's landing at Milford Haven in 1485. (See pages 36 and 48 of "History of the Gwydir Family," 1878 Edition, by Mr Askew Roberts.) Documentary evidence was put in on the occasion referred to, showing that John ab Meredith and several of his descendants,

the Owners of Ystumcegid, Clenenny, and Porkington, owners of the Castle, had been Mayors of Criccieth.

BEN.

CURRENT NOTES.

The death is announced of Mr Walter Barber Buddicom, of Penbedw Hall, Flintshire, after a protracted illness. The deceased was the son of the late Rev R. P. Buddicom, principal of St. Bees College, Cumberland, and qualified as a magistrate for Flintshire on the 18th March, 1863. In the following year he served the office of High Sheriff for Flintshire. Deceased was an extensive landed proprietor in Flintshire, and was widely known and respected for his open-hearted generosity.

Great numbers of pilgrims visited the monastery at Pant-asaph near Holywell, last week. The bands of pilgrims from various parts of England included the confraternity of Sodalists from St. Wilfrid's Church, Prestou, and over 700 pilgrims from Liverpool and Birkenhead, nearly all Tertiaries, or members of the Third Order of St. Francis, in connection with St. Francis Xavier's Church. The church proved wholly inadequate to accommodate the large congregations, and service was held on the summit of the mountain close by, the procession to and from the mountain being headed by the cross-bearers and acolytes, followed by the children of the orphanage and St. Clare's Convent School, the friars of St. David's Monastery, and members of the Third Order in the garb of the Franciscan brotherhood. The scene was a most imposing one. Additions are continually being made to this extensive Franciscan establishment, the latest, a large clock placed in the monastery tower, in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee, the gift of Mr Ambrose Champ, of Liverpool and Pantasaph.

THE WREXHAM FREE LIBRARY.—The committee of the Free Library have decided to devote certain shelves to a collection of books which is to be called "The Local Library," and is to have a special catalogue. The Local Library will comprise:—(1) Books throwing light on the history, antiquities, zoology, botany, or minerals of the town and neighbourhood, or illustrating the trade, manufactures, or mining of the district. (2) Books printed in Wrexham. (3) Books written by persons connected in one way or another with the town and neighbourhood. As the committee do not at present possess the means of purchasing books for the formation and enrichment of this library, they will be glad to receive donations of any books coming within the description above given. It is believed this Local Library may be made of considerable value and importance.

MR. DAVID DAVIES OF LLANDINAM.

The subject of a recent paper in the *Western Mail*, one of a series on the Industries of Wales and their Notable Men, by Mr Charles Wilkins, was Mr David Davies, of Llandinam, and of the Ocean Collieries. Mr Davies, Mr Wilkins says, is the son of a small Cardiganshire farmer, and was born in a cottage on the Crewe Read estate in Montgomeryshire, an estate which he now owns. He entered life as a sawyer, in which capacity he worked with his brother. His first speculation consisted in the buying of small coppices of oak and the selling of them, and when he undertook housekeeping, the skirting boards of the house were his own work, and he was proud of them. His first undertaking in a pursuit in which he subsequently laid the foundations of his wealth and fame, was the

erection of a bridge over the Severn at Llanidloes, on the railway from Moat Lane to Llanidloes. Mr Davies was next concerned in the making of the railway from Rhyl to Denbigh, and then in the extension from Moat Lane to Aberystwyth. It was on this undertaking that he encountered his first serious obstacle, the rock at Talerddig, to drive through which seemed impossible, and there was no avoiding it. He, however, attacked it, and on doing so he found it provided him with admirable material for all the bridge work on the section. Speaking of the rock in after years he said he at first regarded it as the rock on which he was to be wrecked, but afterwards he found it was the rock of his salvation. The scenery on this section is amongst the most romantic in North Wales, and no one can have travelled along it without appreciating the engineering difficulties with which the contractor had to grapple, nor without admiring the skill with which he overcame them. Mr Davies's subsequent undertakings were the line from Tenby to Pembroke, the extension from Aberystwyth to Pencader, and the Van railway connecting Trefeglwys with Caersws. A life-long testotaller, Mr Davies has ever been thrifty in his personal habits, and when contesting Cardiganshire in 1865, though everything of the best was at the service of his friends and political assistants, his personal expenses did not exceed ten shillings a week. His greatest expenditure was for milk, of which he drank as much as would keep two calves. Mr Davies's entrance upon his great colliery work in South Wales was characteristic. He had an interview with Mr Crawshay Bailey, with a view of securing a lease of the coal field near Treorky, but Mr Bailey was indisposed to part with his land to "speculators and adventurers." "I am no adventurer," replied Mr Davies, "but an honest trader; and for every honest guinea you will put down I will put another." Mr Bailey was overcome by the natural honesty of the man, and terms were arranged which resulted in the development of a vast coal trade.

IN THE FIELDS AND LANES.

Are not the swallows very few in number this summer? I have scarcely seen one! If my observation is correct, can any reason be given for the small numbers? W.

I caught a full-fledged cuckoo, over a month ago, in a blackbird's nest. Could any of your correspondents tell me how to feed it, and, it being migratory, whether it is possible for keep it alive through the winter?

Montgomeryshire.

LL. C. H.

On taking a wasps' nest a few days ago I was very much surprised to find a considerable number of the common red ants roaming about the nest. The wasps were busily engaged in carrying away maggots, and perhaps the ants had something to do with this. Can anyone explain?

S. J.

I think it would be useful and interesting to get a complete list of the ferns now found in this district. One fern-lover might send a list, and then others could supplement the deficiency. The localities should be given; I do not mean the exact habitats, for that may but lead to spoliation.

E.

For the last three or four years some swifts have built their nests and reared their brood under the eaves of Mr T. Moxey's house, in the Back Road, Welshpool. Each year some of the offspring have been white or partially so. This year the brood consists of two birds, one black with a white crown and the other perfectly white.

B.

I should be glad to know whether any of the following moths have been noticed near Oswestry. They have all been taken near Welshpool:—The Goat Moth (*C. ligniperda*), the Large Emerald (*G. papilionaria*), the Chi moth (*P. chi*), the Beautiful Golden Y (*P. pulchra*), or the Centrebarred Sallow (*C. xerampelina*). Could any of your readers give me a list of uncommon or local moths taken round Oswestry?

S. J.

AUGUST 17, 1887.

NOTES.

WELSH HISTORICAL LITERATURE OF THE REIGN.—May I suggest that there certainly should be some permanent record of the works published during her Majesty's reign, exclusively dealing with county, parochial, borough, and district history, and exclusively referring to the Principality called Wales, and in the interpretation of the word "Wales" I will take the National Eisteddfod designation, "That the word Wales shall in all cases be held to include the county of Monmouth." If contributors to *Bye-Gones* will send in notes to the editor for publication in this column, such a permanent record will be provided. The particulars should include:—(1) full title of the work in English; (2) size; (3) year of publication; (4) author's name or society publishing; (5) number of pages in work; (6) price at which published; (7) special features likely to be useful for future reference.

Brecknock.

EDWIN POOLE.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENES AT CHESTER (Aug. 3, 1887).—On a reference to Hemingway's "Chester," I find the following, which, after the note "Extraordinary Scenes at Chester," may be of interest:—

In remarking upon the lower classes of society in Chester, I cannot help expressing my conviction that the frequent and almost constant political broils with which the city has been cursed for the last twenty-five years, have done more injury to their manners and morals, than all other causes put together. These lamentable results are referable not merely to the seasons of ardent contest, when intoxicating liquors are limited only by the evil capabilities of the rabble, who neglect their work for the time; but to the dissolute and idle habits which are created by these scenes of dissipation. The rancorous feelings, also engendered by party animosities, have been kept in a state of continual excitement, and personal animosities and ill-will have almost utterly banished good neighbourhood. Perhaps nothing has contributed more to these asperities, and to a consummate vulgarity of manners in the lower classes, than the disgusting scenes which have usually been exhibited at our common-halls during elections, whether parliamentary or civic. Upon these occasions the exchange has generally been crowded with people, of whom they have constituted the great bulk; and here have been congregated in one mass, as in a focus, all the low rivalry, coarse wit, and vulgarity of the city, which have been profusely scattered upon magistrates, or other respectable characters in the most outrageous vociferations. But we may now (1831) be permitted to hope that these disgraceful scenes and the evils to which they have given rise, will cease to exist. A brighter prospect opens to our view, which promises an extermination of our party feuds, and a return of those happy days, when the interest of one part of our population will be considered as the interests of all.

The historian, in the last paragraph, probably refers in part to the probable passing of the Reform Bill then before the House of Commons.

J.E.G.

QUERIES.

TANATS OF ABERTANAT.—Can any of your readers tell me what was the crest and arms and motto of this family?

CYMR.

EDWARD WILLIAMS.—Two neat octavo volumes (date 1789) purchased by me at a recent sale are entitled "Antipædo Baptism Examined: or a strict and impartial inquiry into the Nature and Design, subjects and mode of Baptism, etc., by Edward Williams." The author's preface is dated "Oswestry, Dec. 9, 1788," and the volumes are "printed and sold" at Shrewsbury "by J. and W. Eddowes." Who and what was the author?

R.A.

ROBERT JONES OF THE BULTHY, MIDDLE-TOWN.—Will anyone inform me where the above named Robert Jones came from, and what family he belonged to? I find he bought the Bultly in 1728, and rumour has it he came from the Vale of Clwyd—the family having lost their ancestral lands (like many more of the old Welsh families) in the wars of Charles the 1st. I also find that his daughter married a Munslo of Trefnanney. Whether there are any descendants of the Munslos living now I know not. If any of your readers can enlighten me they will oblige.

A WELSHMAN.

REPLIES.

BISHOP WILLIAM MORGAN (Ap. 6, 27, Aug. 3, 1887).—I have read the various notes that your excellent contributor ASAPH has sent about Bishop Wm. Morgan, and briefly remark thereon. I have two pedigrees of the family, of unquestionable warranty, one of them is somewhat fuller in detail of the family connections, going upward, downward, and into the lateral branches. I am warranted therefrom in saying that there are no descendants of the Bishop. The *Evan Morgan* referred to, whom I had been led to suppose to be his son—ASAPH likewise, evidently, the same—was a nephew, the son of a brother by a first wife. Neither was the *Ellis Morgan* in descent from *Evan*, but from a brother. The Bishop married a widowed lady, descended from an old Oswestry family. A short pedigree of her is attached. The Bishop was the first of the family to take the surname of Morgan. His father went by the *ap*, and the other *paters* ascending went by the *aps*, with the names interchanging. I made many visits to Penmachno, and was there enthusiastically assisted in my labours in that wide district by my friend, the well-known local antiquary and poet, the late Mr Owen Gethin Jones. ASAPH must excuse me giving the pedigree and notes in detail in advance of the Memoir, which I must now say is intended for appearance within the first opening days of 1888—the tercentenary year, and to be a *Tercentenary Tribute* to the memory of the Translator. I mourn the loss through death of a number of friends and gentlemen who gave me freely their assistance. I regret, to an extent, the delay, but if I had issued it as proposed it would have been

wanting in some important particulars. In conclusion, by way of suggestion for a *Memorial of Bishop Morgan*, as the Tercentenary of the printing of his Translation into Welsh is approaching, one most desirable way to commemorate it would be to issue a *Memorial Bible*,† to be a Reprint of the Bishop's Translation, with the present Welsh, in PARALLEL COLUMNS, say in quarto size. Let us have a special volume, at no extravagant price, of these "Words of Life." This would be befitting and immortal. Windows and other erections are fragile, and decayable, and breakable, and local, and are not, in themselves, of a suitable kind for a work so stupendously magnificent and important, and cannot bring the mind into contact with the spirituality and the greatness of the Translator's labours. By a Memorial Bible millions of our countrymen can at the same time feast the eye with delight on a beautiful book, and the soul with fruit from the Tree of Life.

T.W.H.

CURRENT NOTES.

The custom of carrying bundles of rushes and placing them on the graves of relatives and friends was observed at Holt on Sunday, Aug. 7.

The new church of St. Deiniol was opened at Criccieth, on Thursday, when the preachers were the Bishop of Bangor, the Bishop of Bedford, and the Rev. J. Morgan of Llandudno.

There were great rejoicings at Whitford and Mostyn on Thursday, in honour of the birth of a son to Lord and Lady Mostyn, the event having taken place at Gloddaeth, Conway, that day. The Whitford bells rang out a merry peal, bands of music paraded the village, and the inhabitants generally joined in the rejoicings.

With the object of improving Minsterley church a two days' exhibition of fossils and minerals of the district, tapestry and general curiosities, was held in the National Schoolroom on Wednesday. Among the more notable exhibitions were carbonates of lime from the Wortherton mine, two petrified Roman candles found in the Roman Gravels Mine, and an interesting brass tablet dug up at Snailbeach, and bearing the following inscription. "John, the son of John Jones, of Sylvaïne, and Margaret, his wife, was buried the 10th day of April, 1700, aged 16. Margaret, wife of the late John Jones and daughter of Thomas James, of Castlewright, gent., was buried the 20th day of May, 1701, aged 48. John Jones, of Sylvaïne, gent., was buried the 12th day of October, 1728, aged 64. Omnes una manet nox, et calcanda semel via lethi."

Five hundred years ago "Harry of Monmouth" was born at Monmouth Castle, and on Tuesday, August 9, was celebrated at Monmouth the 500th anniversary of King Henry's birth. The occasion was celebrated with great display. The streets were gaily decorated for the occasion. Agincourt-square, Monnow-street, and the other main streets were brilliant with bunting and flags. At noon the band of the R.M.E.M. performed a selection of music in the square in front of the Town-hall. A public luncheon followed at the Beaufort Arms Hotel. Alderman Willis (mayor of Monmouth) presided, and he was supported on the right by the Hon. Mrs Watson, the Mayoress, and

† If this proposal meets with favour I shall have more words to say, for the benefit of English-Welshmen, who are numerous and patriotic. Let the anomaly pass.

Lord Raglan, and on the left by his Grace the Duke of Beaufort, K.G., Colonel the Hon. F. C. Morgan, and others, the company numbering over 130. In the room was placed a portrait of Henry V., supported by a portcullis, and on the walls were various pictures of the warrior king. The Mayor proposed the toast of the evening, "The Memory of Henry V.," which he asked them to drink in solemn silence. Other toasts followed, including that of the health of the lord-lieutenant of the county, the Duke of Beaufort, who is a lineal descendant of King Henry. At the close of the proceedings, the following telegram was received:—"The Queen is interested in the way that you are celebrating the 500th anniversary of Henry of Monmouth." Subsequently there was an open-air free ball in Chippenham Mead. An excellent display of fireworks was given at night under the direction of Mr James Cumby; and there was also a torchlight procession, the chief character, clad in mail and mounted, representing King Henry.

The Late Sir R. Green-Price, Bart.

We regret to record the death of Sir Richard Green-Price, Bart., of Norton Manor, Presteigne, which took place early on Wednesday morning, in London, where he had recently gone for the purpose of undergoing a surgical operation. Sir Richard had attained the ripe old age of 83 years. He was the descendant of an ancient Radnorshire family, being the eldest surviving son of the late Mr George Green of Cannon Bridge, Radnorshire, by Margaret, daughter of Mr Richard Price of Knighton, and sister of Mr Richard Price, who represented the Radnor district in the House of Commons for 50 years. He was born at Cannon Bridge, Madeley, Herefordshire, in 1803, and was twice married. His first wife was Frances Milborough, daughter of Mr Dansey R. Dansey of Easton Court, Herefordshire, whom he married in 1837. This lady died in 1842; and four years later his second marriage took place with Laura, daughter of Mr R. H. King, M.D., of Mortlake, Surrey. He was educated at Worcester, afterwards adopting the profession of a solicitor. In 1861 he succeeded to the Norton estates of his maternal uncle, Mr Richard Price, in accordance with whose will he assumed, by royal licence, the name of Price in addition to his patronymic. Later on he took an active part in local political affairs, and sat in the Liberal interest for the Radnor district from 1863 to 1869, when he retired in favour of the Marquis of Hartington, who had been defeated in North Lancashire. In 1874, on the recommendation of Mr Gladstone, he was created a baronet, and in the same year he contested Radnorshire without success, but succeeded in gaining the seat in 1880, which he retained till 1885. Sir Richard was appointed a Deputy-Lieutenant of Radnorshire in 1864, and served as High Sheriff of the county in 1876. Although always actively engaged in business matters, Sir Richard found time at intervals to indulge in the sports of the field, hunting being his favourite pastime. He was of a generous and kindly disposition; and he won the love and admiration of a wide circle of friends among all classes of society. He is succeeded in the baronetcy by Richard Dansey Green-Price of the Poplars, Kingsland, Shrewsbury.

The Late Rev. E. T. Barnwell, M.A.

We regret to record the death of the Rev. Edward Lowry Barnwell, formerly Master of Dean Goodman's School, Ruthin, and for many years secretary of the Cambrian Archaeological Association, in which he took the deepest interest. Mr Barnwell, who had attained the good old age of 77, died on the 9th of August, at his resi-

dence, Melksham House, Melksham, Wiltshire. He was the third son of Charles Frederick Barnwell, son of the Rev F. Barnwell, Rector of Lawshall, Suffolk, by Jane, daughter of the Rev. John Lowry, Rector of Clogherny, in the county of Tyrone, and was educated at the Grammar School at Bath (where his father then resided), and at two private schools, at Burton Oresent and Greenwich, from the latter of which he went up to Balliol College, Oxford, and took his B.A. degree. At Oxford his antiquarian tastes were shown by his connection with the Oxford Heraldic Society, afterwards merged in the Historical and Architectural Society. In 1836 he was elected to a scholarship at Jesus College, and ordained deacon, and soon afterwards he accepted a curacy at Malvern Wells, but resigned it on being appointed to Ruthin School, by the Bishop of Bangor, in 1839. In 1837 he had been ordained priest by the Bishop of Worcester. In 1846 he married Matilda, daughter of the Rev. C. J. Chapman of St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich, by whom he had a son, the Rev. C. B. Barnwell, Vicar of St. James's Church, Devizes, a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, and other children, who predeceased him. In September, 1865, Mr Barnwell resigned his mastership of Ruthin School, and settled at Melksham, where, in a part of the parish distant from the parish church, he built a church, and partially endowed it. Mr Barnwell was amongst the earliest supporters of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, which was started by the late Rev. H. Longueville Jones, and in 1854 he was elected General Secretary of the Cambrian Archaeological Association, in succession to the present Bishop of St. David's. He held the office until 1875, and after his resignation was appointed treasurer of the Society. Besides doing excellent work as an officer of the Society, he contributed valuable papers to the *Journal*, and he will long be remembered by the members as one of the most respected and accomplished amongst them. An excellent portrait of Mr Barnwell, and a memoir (to which we are indebted for the particulars now given), appeared in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* in 1884.

LAYING THE FIRST CYLINDER OF THE DEE BRIDGE.

The first cylinder of the bridge over the Dee, the most important link in the new line of railway which is to connect Wrexham with Liverpool, was laid yesterday by Mr Gladstone. The Wrexham, Mold, and Connah's Quay Railway, which has lately been extended into the town of Wrexham, is the first link in the new chain of communication with Liverpool and the north. The line will be diverted in the direction of Chester on its approach to the Dee, and the new bridge will cross the river at a point about half way between Connah's Quay and Queen's Ferry. Then the Wirral Railway, begun nearly three years ago, when Mr Gladstone cut the first sod, will complete the communication with Birkenhead, and, by means of the Mersey Tunnel, with Liverpool; while a branch to Chester joins the system of the Cheshire Lines Committee, thus communicating with Manchester.

Since the year 1861 nine applications have been made to Parliament for powers to connect the independent Railways of Wales and the large districts which they accommodate; by means of a bridge across the river Dee, with the docks on the Mersey and the system of the Cheshire Lines Railways at Chester, thus at once connecting Wales with Liverpool, and, by means of the Cheshire Lines system, with Manchester and the North of England.

In 1866 Mr James Allport (now Sir James Allport), representing the Midland Company, Mr Seymour Clarke, the general manager, representing the Great Northern Company, and Mr Underdown, representing the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company, all gave evidence before Parliament in favour of a proposal to connect North and South Wales with Liverpool and the North of England by means of a tunnel under the Dee. The financial crisis which followed in 1866 prevented the scheme from being carried out.

In 1873 the Birkenhead, Chester, and North Wales Railway Bill was brought before Parliament to sanction the crossing of the Dee by means of a high level bridge, with a line to Birkenhead to join the authorized Mersey Tunnel, and also a line to Chester to join the Cheshire Lines system there. This scheme received the support of the Landed, Mining, and Commercial interests of North Wales, and was sanctioned by Parliament, but was not carried out.

In 1884 the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company saw the importance of this connection, and they obtained the sanction of Parliament to extend the Cheshire Lines from Chester to Connah's Quay by means of a low level opening Bridge across the Dee, which will connect the Manchester and Yorkshire and North Eastern Districts with North and South Wales; and by means of the Wirral Line Liverpool will be brought within half-an-hour of North Wales.

The districts that will be accommodated by this Bridge comprise the North Wales Coalfield, which contains 4,450,000,000 tons of coal, and collieries are now open and working which can produce 3,000,000 tons of coal per annum. The great markets for the coal and slack produced in North Wales are the Mersey and the Salt Districts of Cheshire. In the Cheshire Salt District alone one million tons of coal and slack are used annually, none or very little of which now finds its way there from North Wales. In addition to coal, the North Wales Districts produce many thousand tons of fire bricks, tiles, sanitary and other pipes of the best quality. There are also inexhaustible limestone rocks, lead mines, and other minerals which only require an access to the markets in the large centres of Lancashire and Yorkshire to cause their further development. The present annual output of coal, lime, limestone, fire-clay, goods, and iron from North Wales, which the Bridge will accommodate, amounts to 3,000,000 tons per annum, and is capable of great increase.

The Bridge in connection with the short Line authorized to be constructed to join the Cambrian Railways at Ellesmere will also form a new route from Swansea and Merthyr, and other large centres in South Wales, to the Mersey and to Manchester, and to the Lancashire and Yorkshire Districts, and the north-east districts generally.

The width of the river where the bridge crosses it is about 480 feet, and the large swing opening will give a free passage of 140 feet in width—the "tail" span being about 80 feet. The length of the swinging girder will be 287 feet, and the depth in the centre 32 feet. Two fixed spans of 120 feet each complete the structure of the bridge. The underside of the bridge will be 15 feet above high water. All the piers will be constructed upon the Indian system of brick wells, by which the employment of iron between "wind and water" will be avoided. The girders are being constructed of mild steel, consequently the moving mass, when the bridge is being opened or closed, will not exceed 850 tons. By adopting hydraulic power under a pressure of 700 lbs. to the inch, the bridge will be opened or closed in 40 seconds.

Efficient arrangements are provided for signalling both vessels and trains, and the necessary buoys, dolphins, and

lights will enable the traffic of the river to be conducted unimpeded both by day and night.

The bridge, when completed, will exceed the span of every other bridge over a navigable river in the United Kingdom by 36 feet.

The weather yesterday was all that could be wished for the pageant which graced the shores of the Dee. The country side was all alive with interest, and long before the hour announced for the brief public ceremony the neighbourhood was crowded with people. For the convenience of those who held invitations, and who arrived by special trains, the path to the elevated platform, overlooking the river, from which Mr Gladstone was to give the signal for the lowering of the cylinder, was railed in, and on the outer side of the rails hundreds were congregated in the first place to see Mr and Mrs Gladstone acting an heroic part in their own home-country, and in the next place of gratifying their curiosity by looking at the railway magnates and other eminent persons who it was reasonably supposed would be amongst those who would be invited. The platform on which all the interest centred, was elevated high above the level of the ground, and the platform as well as the steps and elevated bridge which led to it were adorned with the utmost profusion of bunting. From the platform it could be seen that the river also was covered with rowing boats, all heavily laden with passengers, and on the opposite side of the river, in Cheshire, or the Wirral peninsula, where the cylinder was actually lowered, was another crowd. Amongst the earliest occupants of the platform were Mr W. H. Gladstone, the Hon. Mrs Gladstone, and Mr James Tomkinson. It was about half-past one when running cheers indicated the progress in the direction of the platform of Mr Gladstone, who was accompanied by Mrs Gladstone. His appearance on the platform was the signal for a respectful cheer from those who had assembled—mainly the invited guests, whose names will appear further on—a cheer which was taken up with vigorous heartiness by the crowds who occupied the surface of the river some distance below. The platform, which was covered, had on the side of it facing the river a rostrum, and here Mr and Mrs Gladstone were at once conducted by Sir Edward Watkin. With little delay Sir Edward began the business of the day by thanking Mr Gladstone for his attendance, and by thanking him especially for inducing Mrs Gladstone to be present. (Cheers.) After dwelling on the Parliamentary difficulties with which the scheme had had to contend Sir Edward said when the men on the other side of the river who were in charge of the cylinder heard that Mrs Gladstone was to be present, they made it at sine qua non that she should give them the signal by blowing a whistle, and with that object he begged to hand her a whistle. To Mr Gladstone, who had to perform what must be called the heroic part of the ceremony, he had to present a pennon; he thought those who examined it would say it was a very beautiful work of art, and that heralds would describe it as representing on the one side England, and on the other side Wales. The embroidery was the work of some pious ladies in the city of Bruges, who had been good enough to carry out what he believed everybody would say was an almost unexampled piece of embroidery.

The whistle presented to Mrs Gladstone was of gold, and, in addition to her monogram, it bore an inscription in commemoration of the occasion on which it was given her. The pennon was attached to a staff about twenty-four inches in length, with the arms of England at the top and the arms of Wales at the bottom, heraldically emblazoned in gold, silver, and enamel. In the centre of the staff is a silver shield, bearing a commemorative inscription.

At Sir Edward Watkin's request, Mrs Gladstone then blew the whistle three times, and this was acknowledged by those in charge of the cylinder by the waving of a white flag. Mr Gladstone, who had previously very much admired the pennon presented to him, then, amidst general cheering, waved the pennon as the signal for the lowering of the cylinder. It may be imagined that the heavily-embroidered pennon, mounted on a short staff, could not be waved with great effect, but Mr Gladstone waved it vigorously several times, not without a humorous laugh at the awkward character of the operation. At this signal the cylinder, the upper edge of which was laden with banners, was slowly lowered into its position, amidst loud cheers.

Mr GLADSTONE, who at first was interrupted by the cheers of the crowd on the river below, said:—Sir Edward Watkin, my lords, ladies and gentlemen,—I shall not at this moment address to you many words, for I am suffering under a certain physical difficulty, which a good deal disables me for the purpose, particularly in the open air; although I must own it would be extremely gratifying to me if it were possible on an occasion of so much interest to make myself heard by all those who have gathered together under, I think, a kind of instinctive sense that to-day we are engaged, if not in doing a thing that is in itself of great importance, yet in doing something which is at least a symbol and a commemoration of an operation that is of the greatest moment. (Cheers.) Do not think it an ill-omen that at the commencement of to-day's proceedings, on one point I express a difference of sentiment from that expressed by Sir Edward Watkin, for he began by saying that he felt himself under great obligation to Mrs Gladstone and myself. I beg leave to turn that saying inside out. (Laughter.) There was never anything in my view more plain than this that I am not here for the purpose of receiving thanks, but for the purpose of giving and expressing thanks. (Cheers.) My business is to convey thanks, and if I may assume anything to myself upon this occasion it is this—that I do not seek or profess to convey them in my own personal capacity alone. I say boldly to Sir Edward Watkin that I render my thanks to him and to those with whom he is associated in this great and important work, and that I render them not in behalf, as I have said, of myself personally, and of those connected with me, not in behalf merely of the parish into which he has brought this great work, but in behalf of the whole people of North Wales. (Cheers.) It is upon them, gentlemen, that a very great benefit is to be conferred. We are greatly indebted to those who, by successive steps, have brought them within view of it; we are indebted to those who have made the Mersey Tunnel—(hear, hear);—we are indebted to those who have projected the railways in the Hundred of Wirral; we are indebted to those who have made the mineral connection between Connah's Quay and the upper country, and who are now to make more effective the communication through Hawarden for the enlarged traffic we anticipate; but most of all we are indebted to those who have faced the great difficulties—Parliamentary difficulties and physical difficulties—which have always been considered to attend an effective crossing over the river Dee, and for the courage, the enterprise, the skill, and the liberality of the chairman and the directors of this Company, of the engineers and the managers who have been associated with them—to them it is our duty to render our most hearty thanks for undertaking the last stage of this great operation of bringing North Wales into full and free communication with England, to the enormous benefit of both. I shall have another opportunity of speaking to you in another capacity—in another attitude I may venture to say—(laughter)—in the course

of half an hour or an hour; but what I wish to impress upon you is that the debt under which we lie is a very serious debt; the benefit which North Wales is about to receive is an enormous benefit, and I will venture to say that in return I hope North Wales is about to confer a great deal of benefit also. (Cheers.) We are a very small people in North Wales; in Liverpool and the great commercial districts of England they are very great people, but notwithstanding that, I believe in all these cases benefit cannot be given without being received—the process is essentially mutual and reciprocal—and whatever advantages we may derive from the free communication with England now about to be made complete, I am confident that England, and especially the neighbouring parts of it, will have no cause to repent of the efforts now being made on our behalf, but that the work we are celebrating to-day is one destined to confer immense advantages upon all those who are either concerned in its foundation and its execution, or those who, inhabiting the neighbouring country, are to receive the profit of increased communication, facilitated exchange, and all those direct and indirect advantages which result from knitting together more closely the different portions of the same country. (Cheers.) Mr Gladstone then turned to the river and bowed to the crowd who cheered him. In reply to repeated cheers he said: This is one of the most interesting occasions in my recollection to you all inhabitants of this part of the country. I am unable I am afraid to reach you as I could wish in conveying to you my congratulations upon the event of the day. I must ask you to take for granted that which I would willingly carry to your ears, and to believe me when I say that all of you, and the youngest among you most of all, have occasion to rejoice in the carrying forward of the great and important work which forms the occasion of our gathering together at this moment.

Before leaving the platform the Mayor of Manchester, Alderman Harwood, the Deputy-Mayor, Alderman Goldschmidt, Mr Cochrane, the contractor, Mr Francis Fox, the engineer, Mr Pollitt, the general manager, and Mr Ross, the secretary, were introduced to Mr Gladstone.

The invited guests then walked to the tent, in which a luncheon was laid out, and to which more than 250 sat down. Sir Edward Watkin occupied the chair, and he was supported on the left by Mrs Gladstone, and on the right by Mr Gladstone.

After lunch Sir E. WATKIN briefly proposed the loyal toasts, which were duly honoured.

Mr GLADSTONE was received with loud cheers on rising to propose the next toast. He said—Sir Edward Watkin, my lords, ladies and gentlemen,—I have been invited, and I have undertaken to perform a double function. The first portion of it is to propose success to the Chester and Connah's Quay Railway, and the latter portion of it connects the railway with a particular name which you will readily guess, and upon which I will not at this moment dilate. The name of the Chester and Connah's Quay Railway Company is new in the railway history of this country; but though new it is perfectly understood, and by it we shall in one sense annihilate the river Dee, not as an instrument of varied good to the population on its banks, but as an impediment to the people of England and Wales. You know that rivers are sometimes impediments and sometimes not. Carry yourselves back in imagination for six or eight centuries, and look at the map and observe the course of the river Dee and the river Severn, both of them rising within the Welsh territory—

in the Welsh-speaking territory. One goes to the south and the other to the north, but the channels of both of them look as if they had been put there for the purpose of severing Wales from England. Especially does that apply to the great estuaries of those two great rivers, and no attempt until very recent years has been made to deal with those two rivers—I believe I am correct in saying that the Great Western Company is not yet working its traffic fully through the tunnel. Possibly that severance of England may have worked for most beneficial purposes in ancient times. The Welsh prize, and in my opinion they justly prize, their traditions—(cheers.)—and I do not believe that strong and fond attachment to local traditions in any degree disables or disqualifies a man for hearty and cordial and useful citizenship in a larger combination. (Cheers.) There are no better Englishmen than the Welshmen—(cheers)—but though they are good Englishmen they are also, before all things Welshmen, and I hope for my own part they will so continue. (Cheers.) But it is not necessary for them now as it may have been in other times of war and bloodshed, when the only way in which the English could manage Wales was by building a circle of strong castles around it; and now Wales invites, desires, and ardently longs for the freest and the fullest communication with England. I rejoice to think that the Great Western Company has struck a great stroke in favour of that principle by the tunnel under the Severn, and I rejoice still more, as one deeply interested in North Wales, to think that we have met to-day to mark and to commemorate the commencement of another important enterprise which I hope will proceed rapidly and prosperously to its completion—(cheers)—for the purpose of striking at the estuary of the Dee, and in defiance of that estuary of establishing immediate and direct communication with the great populous districts of Lancashire—(cheers)—and not only with those districts to which it is perhaps natural for us first to look, but through the operation of this Chester and Connah's Quay Railway, likewise with the mineral districts of South Wales, and with the entire midland country of England. The statements which no doubt you have seen will give you every necessary detail on these subjects, and will enable you clearly to understand how it is that this railway though insignificant if measured by the amount of its mileage, by bringing into close and direct communication a multitude of districts and a multitude of half prepared organs of communication, is going to put the crown on a work of the utmost local, I might even say of not inconsiderable national, importance. (Cheers.) I am rather ashamed, Sir Edward Watkin, of entering upon this subject, because I am a very old advocate of this communication. For the last twenty, or five and twenty years, I have never missed an opportunity of preaching its advantages, but after claiming that credit I am bound to add that my advocacy has not been like yours, of a practical character; it has been lost very much in the air, it has never gone beyond words, and though the words were the expression of a sincere conviction, it is not to be compared for a moment with the advocacy of those who have supplied the sinews of war, and the practical means of attaining the object we have in view. (Cheers.) But one thing I think quite obvious that is if ever there was a case in which direct railway communication was of vital importance, and of essential benefit, it is the case of North Wales in her relations with the great manufacturing districts of England. Consider what North Wales is. She never can hope to be an agricultural country, a great exporter of produce. The fact is that the English people, even with the present imperfect communication, find

North Wales so salubrious that already they come here in such numbers that they eat up all the corn we get, and we are obliged, I believe, to import a great deal more. (Laughter.) When I used to go to Penmaenmawr—I do not suppose it would be quite as dear now—I think we had to feed our horses with oats at something like 35s or 40s a quarter. We had to fetch it a great distance, as the whole produce of the country was gone, owing to the rush of the English people to North Wales, which has been great, and which, when this bridge is in operation, will be a great deal greater still. (Cheers.) The right hon. gentleman then referred to the subject of milk and to a medical enquiry, in which it was shown that in Glasgow and its environs what were called the rickets in children prevailed, or were absent, in proportion to the use of milk. He was bound to say that the gentleman who made the enquiry had a great deal to say for oatmeal too, but the want of milk for the masses of the population, above all, and far beyond all, for the child masses was a want, the importance of which it was impossible to exaggerate. (Hear, hear.) The supply of milk in Liverpool, they knew, was miserable, and one of the benefits of that important undertaking would be that the district of North Wales so well calculated for the supply of sweet and wholesome milk, would be made available for meeting the wants of the manufacturing and commercial districts of Lancashire and elsewhere. (Cheers.) The right hon. gentleman proceeded: But that is not all; that is not the most essential point so far as Wales is concerned. Wales is a country with a wealth, and a diversified wealth, in minerals such as, within the same compass, is hardly to be equaled in the world. In some of the statements connected with this celebration you will see a row of figures describing the tonnage of coal in the ground, and that row of figures is so long that a man must be rather clever to read it out at once without stumbling. (Laughter.) It is not only in millions but thousands of millions—I do not know whether it touches billions, or how far it goes—but there is no question that whatever may be the impediments, and whatever difficulties may have arisen out of movements that have broken up the coal in former ages, there are enormous quantities of coal accessible as we hope even under this soil of the estuary of the Dee where we are now standing. But not to refer to what is problematical, if we look at North Wales as it is, if we take the vast slate quarries of Carnarvonshire, if we take the stone quarries upon which so many of our towns are almost entirely dependent for paving our streets, if we take the earthenware and bricks which are produced largely in this neighbourhood, and of higher quality, so that they become formidable competitors, even at distant points, with the productions of other districts, and are even finding their way over sea; or if we got into Denbighshire and take its mining operations as they now stand irrespective of future development, what we say is this—that North Wales is the producer of an enormous bulk of valuable and useful material, which material, as measured by its weight is of the smallest values known to the markets. That is the very description of commodity for which cheap direct communication with the principal markets is essential and vital. (Cheers.) As one speaking for this parish, and having considered the matter as well as I can for what lies to the west of us along the coast of Wales, it seems to me that this bridge will ensure for us an abbreviation of distance amounting to not less than twenty miles. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, for commodities, some of which are not worth more than four or five shillings per ton at the pit mouth, twenty miles communication lost or saved is the question of market or no market, it is the question of

getting mineral or no mineral—(cheers);—and what is now proposed means an enormous expansion of supply for those who want the goods, and an enormous expansion of demand for this country of North Wales, a stimulus to its labour, new fields for its enterprise, and large profits as I hope to be derived by those useful and powerful organizations that are to carry the products of one portion of the country to meet the wants and necessities of another. (Cheers.) The inestimable benefits of railways are enhanced at every point by the peculiar circumstances of North Wales as the producer of enormous amounts of the cheapest commodities, which will not bear unnecessary cost of transit, and by the fact that hitherto the estuaries of the Mersey and of the Dee have cut us off from our proper commercial metropolis, and in point of fact have interposed great additional mileages and charges between us and our communications with the rest of the country. (Cheers.) The right hon. gentleman then referred to the great services rendered to that part of the country by the great and powerful corporations of the North Western and Great Western Railways, and he went on to point out that a little pressure was good for them as it was for us all. (Laughter.) The right hon. gentleman referred to the special services now done to the district by Sir E. Watkin and the Directors of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway, and, adverting to Sir Edward's reference to Parliamentary obstacles which they had had to encounter, he said Sir Edward Watkin was accustomed to the hardships of Parliamentary opposition. (Laughter.) Sir Edward had lived to triumph over that, and there was another opposition which he was almost afraid to mention, and he would only beg them to tolerate what he had to say. Sir Edward was one of those men wicked enough to desire that a tunnel should be constructed between England and France—(cheers)—and what was truly painful to him (Mr Gladstone) was that he was compelled to confess that he was one of those men wicked enough to agree with him. (Laughter.) But there would be no difficulty on that subject; public opinion would settle the matter, it would become disposed to part with the luxury of terror, that indulgence in the charms of panic which unquestionably had become a most powerful agent of late years in the management of our national concerns, he was afraid chiefly in retarding and intercepting benefits. He concluded by giving the toast, which was received with loud cheers.

Mwrog then recited some lines in English, based on the form of the englynion, and Sir EDWARD WATKIN briefly responded to the toast.

The Hon G. T. KENYON, M.P., in proposing the toast of the industrial interests of North Wales, referred to the men who had always kept Wales to the fore in engineering matters. (Cheers.)

Mr B. PIERCY, in responding, said the two slight gaps in the series of independent lines between South Wales and the Dee—the line from a point east of Oswestry to Wrexham, and the Hawarden loop line—would be finished by the time the bridge was finished. (Cheers.) When they were completed one stream of traffic would flow by way of the Wirral Railway, for the construction of which Mr Robertson, with Mr Clayton, Mr Sparrow, and other gentlemen, had done more than anyone else, to Birkenhead and Liverpool, and the other stream would be distributed over Lancashire, Yorkshire, and the north-east by the Cheshire lines. (Cheers.)

Sir E. WATKIN explained the absence of Mr H. Robertson through ill-health, and proposed the health of Mr Gladstone, which was received with three cheers, and "one cheer more" for Mrs Gladstone.

Mr GLADSTONE briefly responded, and the company rose.

The crowd outside was still as great as ever, and as Mr and Mrs Gladstone drove away to Hawarden they were greeted with hearty parting cheers.

THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD.

TUESDAY (AUGUST 9).

The National Eisteddfod of Wales has held its meetings this year in London on a scale of unprecedented magnificence, beginning on Tuesday, August 9. A strong executive committee was formed with the following gentlemen as officers:—President of the General Committee, Mr J. H. Puleston, M.P.; Vice-Presidents of the General Committee, Alderman David Evans, Mr Morgan Lloyd, Q.C., and Mr Lewis Morris, M.A.; Honorary Treasurers, Ald. David Evans, and Mr Lewis H. Roberts; Chairman of the Executive Committee, Mr Stephen Evans; Vice-Chairmen of the Executive Committee, Dr Isambard Owen, M.D., M.A., and Mr T. Marchant Williams, B.A.; Chairman of the Literary Sub-Committee, Mr Lewis Morris, M.A.; Vice-Chairman, Mr Richard Roberts, B.A.; Chairman of the Musical Sub-Committee, Mr John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalla); Vice-Chair, Miss Mary Davies; Chairmen of the Arts and Science Sub-Committee, Mr W. Cave Thomas, F.S.S., and Mr John Williams, M.D.; Chairmen of the Finance Sub-Committee, Ald. David Evans, and Mr Lewis H. Roberts; and Messrs W. E. Davies and E. Vincent Evans, as joint Honorary Secretaries.

A large crowd assembled in Hyde Park at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 9, to witness the ancient ceremony of holding the Gorsedd of the Bards of the Isle of Britain. In the absence of Clwydfardd, who had not yet arrived, Hwfa Môn presided over the Gorsedd. The proceedings were, as usual, carried on in the open air—"in the face of the sun, the Eye of light,"—within a circle marked out by twelve unhewn stones placed a few feet apart. In the centre was a large stone, also unhewn, called the "Maen Llôg," or "Logan Stone," upon which the Archdruid stood facing the East. At each of the twelve stones a Bard was placed to guard the sacred circle, and there were others within the circle to take part in the proceedings. After the "Corn Gwlad" had been sounded, Hwfa Môn read the Gorsedd proclamation, and the Rev. R. Parry (Gwalchmai) said the Gorsedd prayer. Hwfa Môn then thrice asked the question, "A oes heddwch?"—"Is it peace?" and thrice-repeated was the answer given in the affirmative by the assembled people. He then declared the Gorsedd open, and stated that it would simply remain open, and, after a few addresses had been given by the bards, adjourned until Wednesday, when it would again be open to confer degrees on those who sought them after having successfully passed the usual tests. He then said he was glad to see such a large gathering of Welsh people at the London Eisteddfod. Their presence that day in London was a test of their attachment to their country, and to its language and traditions, which he hoped they would continue to cherish. (Cheers.) He said that most probably the application of Wrexham for the honour of being chosen as the place for holding next year's Eisteddfod would be ratified by the Gorsedd during that Eisteddfod; and he had the pleasure of informing them that Brecon wished for the honour of having the Eisteddfod for 1889, and the application of that town was supported by a deputation consisting of His Worship the Mayor of Brecon, Lord Tredegar, Mr Fuller Maitland, M.P. for Breconshire, and Professor Rowlands (Dewi Môn). The deputation were cheered on approaching the Gorsedd with their application. When they had withdrawn, Eos y Berth and Idris Vychan sang some penillion to the accompaniment of the harp, which was played by Mr Alfred Roberts of Newtown, the air being "Pen Rhaw." Alltud Eifion, Gwilym Pennant, Gwalchmai, and Granvillefab (who had come from

America), delivered poetical addresses. Hwfa Mon announced that Clwydfardd had arrived, and he was warmly received, and delivered an englyn, after which the Gorsedd was declared closed until Wednesday.

The first Eisteddfod meeting began at eleven o'clock, in the Royal Albert Hall, over the north entrance to which floated the Royal flag of Wales. On the front of the great organ was displayed on a blue shield the bardic symbol—the three rays of light—surmounted by the Prince of Wales's plumes, and supported on each side by flags, that on the left having a representation of the red dragon, and that on the right the royal flag of Wales. Underneath was the motto "Y Gwir yn erbyn y Byd." The orchestra was also decorated with flowers in pots, whilst overhead were suspended the usual mottoes of the bardic chairs of Wales, and the names of recently-deceased Welshmen of note, among whom were those of Roland Phillips, Gwrgant, Dan Isaac Davies, Ceiriog, Iolo Trefaldwyn, Scorpion, and Dr Edwards. The President was the Right Hon. Lord Mostyn, and the Conductors were Mr William Abraham, M.P. (Mabon), the Rev. Hugh Hughes, and Mr P. Mostyn Williams. The seats in the two upper galleries and in the arena of the large hall were well filled with an enthusiastic audience. The proceedings opened with an organ recital by Mr J. Haydn Parry. Mr Henry Richard, M.P., read a letter he had received from Mr Gladstone (who had promised to preside if he was in London at the time) explaining his absence.

The Rev. Hugh Hughes, one of the conductors, then read the letter in Welsh, after which cheers were called for Mr Gladstone, and given with enthusiasm.

Clwydfardd gave a poetical address in honour of Mr Gladstone, and a similar address was delivered by Gwilym Pennant.

The President, on his arrival, was most enthusiastically received. Several poetical addresses having been given by some of the principal bards, Mr Edward Owen sang a Welsh melody as an Eisteddfod song, "Llwyddiant i'r Eisteddfod."

The President, who was very heartily received, then delivered his address.

Mr Ben Davies (by permission of Mr Leslie) gave Dr Joseph Parry's song, "Gwlad fy ngenedigaeath," which was encored and partly repeated.

In the competition on the contralto solo, "Hence, Iris, Hence, Away" (Handel, *Semele*), prize £5, adjudicators, Signor Randegger, Mr David Jenkins, Mus. Bac., and Mr John Thomas, Llanwrtyd; there were fifteen competitors, out of whom a selection of three was made for this final competition, and the prize was awarded to Miss Lucy Clarke, Cardiff, who was invested by the President.

Idris Vychan and Eos y Berth gave specimens of Penillion singing; Welsh harp, Mr Albert Roberts, Newtown.

During an interval, whilst waiting for one of the choirs to get on the platform, calls were made for a song from Mabon, but, instead, he asked the audience to sing the old Welsh hymn "Bydd myrdd o ryfeddodau," which was responded to, and the fine old hymn was sung with good effect by the vast assembly.

The chief attraction of the day was the choral competition for male voices (open to all comers), number of voices, fifty to seventy. Prize £50, and a gold medal for the conductor. Test pieces: (a), "Where is he?" (Beethoven, *Engedi*); (b), "The Beleaguered" (Sullivan); (c), "Valiant Warriors" (David Jenkins, *David and Goliath*). The first two pieces only were sung. Adjudicators—Sir George Macfarren, Signor Randegger, Mr Joseph Bennett, Mr John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalla), Mr D. Emlyn Evans, and Mr David Jenkins, Mus. Bac. The following choirs

competed, and sang in the order named:—Cynon Glee Society, conductor, Mr W. E. Davies; the Merthyr Orpheus Society, conductor, Mr W. H. Powell; the London Welsh, conductor, Mr J. Haydn Parry; Brynman; Tredegar Orpheus Society, conductor, Mr Dd. Jones; Rhondda Glee Society, conductor, Mr T. Stephens; Glan Tawe Glee Society, conductor, Mr John Jones; Dowlais Glee Society, conductor, Mr John Evans; the Arvonian Choir, conductor, Dr Roland Rogers; the Port Talbot Society, conductor, Mr E. T. Evans; the Huddersfield Glee Society, conductor, Mr John North. The adjudication was given by Sir George Macfarren, who said the adjudicators had had great difficulty, which, however, was fraught with pleasure, in deciding on their award. It was wondrous that the remote principality of Wales, where there were so few opportunities of hearing the performance of high class music, should produce such excellent choirs, every one of which was worthy of the prize. The six adjudicators were divided in their opinion, three for giving the prize to the Rhondda Choir, and three being for giving it to Huddersfield. They had the choice of calling in an umpire, or of dividing the prize, and they agreed to do that, and recommended the Committee to give a gold medal to each conductor, to which the Committee readily acceded, and Mabon congratulated the two conductors as representing England and Wales, amidst great cheers.

There were ten competitors entered on the harmonium solo, the overture to "Emmanuel" (Joseph Parry); Prize £5.—Adjudicators, Sir George Macfarren, Dr Joseph Parry, and Mr J. H. Roberts, Mus. Bac.,—but only six competed. A selection of two was made to play before the meeting, and Sir George Macfarren said the prize was awarded to the second that played, who proved to be Mr Richard Pritchard, Carnarvon.

The tenor solo competition, "There be none of Beauty's Daughters" (John Thomas), prize £5, attracted no less an entry than forty-one competitors, but only sixteen competed, out of whom the adjudicators, Mr Joseph Bennett, Mr D. Emlyn Evans, and Mr John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalla) selected three to appear before the audience at the final trial, the prize being eventually awarded to the second who sang, who was Mr Edward Arthur Jones, Newtown (Idris Idloes), who was invested by Miss Beta Scott.

At the close of the meeting the conductors of the winning Male Voice Choirs were presented with the gold medals by the President, and with cheques for £25 each by Mrs William Abraham, the wife of Mabon.

A grand concert was held in the evening, beginning at eight o'clock, in the Royal Albert Hall, under the presidency of Alderman David Evans.

WEDNESDAY.

GREAT CHORAL COMPETITION.

On Wednesday, prior to the proceedings in the Albert Hall, the Gorsedd was again held in Hyde Park, the Archdruid, Clwydfardd, presiding. The degree of ovate was conferred upon Mr P. M. Jones, a Welsh poet, of Runcorn; and the Rev John Hughes, Welsh Wesleyan minister, London, known in bardic circles as "Glanystwyth," received the higher degree of Druid.

The Albert Hall presented a more crowded appearance than on the opening day of the Eisteddfod. This was, no doubt, due to the fact that the principal choral competition of the meeting was to take place, and to the great popularity amongst his countrymen of the president for the day, Mr Henry Richard, M.P., who delivered his address first in the Welsh and next in the English language. He received a most cordial welcome, as did also Mabon (Mr William

Abraham, M.P.), the Rev Hugh Hughes, and Mr P. Mostyn Williams, the conductors, and the Hon George Kenyon, M.P., who invested some of the successful competitors. The proceedings in the hall commenced with an organ recital by Mr Walter Hughes, which was thoroughly appreciated by those who had taken their seats as early as ten o'clock. Punctually at eleven o'clock the President took the chair, after which some of the principal bards delivered poetic addresses of welcome in his honour. The eisteddfod song "Baner ein Gwlad" ("Our Country's Banner") was then given by Mr Dyved Lewys amidst much enthusiasm, after which

THE PRESIDENT, who was most cordially received, said—I hope such of our kind English friends as have favoured us with their presence here to-day will forgive me for occupying the few minutes I have done in speaking to my countrymen in their own language. To you, I dare say, it seemed unintelligible jargon, as I am afraid your language would be to some of my countrymen. (A laugh.) But you must remember that it is to them their mother tongue, a phrase which in all languages carries with it a special sweetness and charm, because there cluster around it the most touching and tender associations of human life—associations of hearth and home, of infancy and childhood. (Hear, hear.) I suppose that there are some Englishmen who think that the best thing that could happen to Wales would be the entire extinction of its language, for I suspect that there is a vague and unavowed conviction at the bottom of many Englishmen's hearts that no people can be entirely civilized or heartily Christian who speak any other language than English. But we differ from them on that point. We have our language, and mean to keep it—(applause)—as long as we can, and we shall do our best to master your own tongue as well—(applause)—so as to struggle with you in the battle of life on your own ground. (Applause.) But do those who talk of extinguishing a language reflect on what is involved in such an idea? What is a language? It is a wonderful and complex instrument, elaborated by a whole people through ages upon ages as the organ through which to express the infinite cogitation of the human mind—as the poet Coleridge said, all thoughts, all passions, all desires, whatever stirs this mortal frame. (Applause.) When any language that has a literature perishes—and the Welsh has a literature of great value, ancient and modern—all these stores of knowledge, thought, tradition, poetry, speculation, and sentiment, embodied and embalmed in that language, perish with it. Is not that a loss to the world? But, if it were desirable, it is not a very easy thing to extinguish a language. The English Government have been trying to do that in Wales for the last three or four centuries. But with what result? With this result, that there are probably at this moment more people who speak Welsh than there ever were before, that the Welsh have a more flourishing and vigorous living literature than at any period of their history, and that the people are more passionately attached to their language than they ever were. In speaking of the character and object of the Eisteddfod, Mr Richard said:—In no sense whatever is it a political institution. (Cheers.) I say this because I believe some misapprehension on this point was at the bottom of a great prejudice which existed at one time in England against the Eisteddfod. Welshmen, no doubt, in these days discuss politics with considerable liveliness. But the platform of the Eisteddfod is just the one spot where all politics are tabooed, where Welshmen of all parties, of all creeds, of all social positions, meet on the common ground of patriotic interest and devotion to the fatherland. (Cheers.) Neither is it the primary

object of the Eisteddfod to maintain and perpetuate the Welsh language. Incidentally, no doubt, it exercises a considerable influence in that direction. But it is an utter mistake to imagine that it aims at this in any sense that is hostile to the diffusion of English. The true reason why these meetings are held in such popular esteem is to be found partly in the reverence which the common people of Wales cherish for old customs, for, without going into vague portentous traditions, there is no doubt that the Eisteddfod has come down from a remote antiquity, and partly in the genuine delight which my countrymen take in such intellectual excitements as are afforded them there in exercises of oratory and literature, and competitions in poetry and music, just as the common people in England delight in horse-racing and boat-racing, and cricket, and other athletic exercises. In conclusion I ask you to look with a feeling of kind sympathy upon these exertions of your Welsh brethren. There is nothing bad, nothing dangerous, nothing to excite alarm in the bosom of man in what we are doing at these Eisteddfodau. We want merely to cherish and cultivate our ancient language and literature and to transmit down to posterity the same love of history and its traditions that we have received from our ancestors. (Loud cheers.)

The adjudication of prizes was then proceeded with. The prize of ten guineas for the collection of Welsh patriotic songs was awarded to Mr J. Thomas (Eifionydd), of Carnarvon. It was announced that the adjudicators of the prize of £25 for overtures for full orchestra had decided to withhold the prize on the ground that none of the compositions were of sufficient merit to justify the allocation of the prize. A similar announcement was made that the prize for landscape painting had also been withheld, as in the opinion of Mr Burne-Jones the artists did not show sufficient ability to permit of the award being adjudged.

Out of 38 competitors, the prize for the tenor solo, "Lend me your aid" (Gounod's "La Reine de Saba") was divided between Mr Wm. Thomas of Neath, and Mr Wm. Evans of Morriston. The Rev. John Phillips of Llanrwst, was awarded a five guinea prize for English essays on "The objects and prospects of the Welsh National Colleges."

In the chief choral competition, open to all comers, the following choirs took part:—The Huddersfield choir (conductor, Mr John North), the Nottingham choir (conductor, Mr F. M. Ward), the Pontypool Fire Brigade and Abersychan choir (conductor, Mr Roger Protheroe), the Llanelly choir (conductor, Mr R. C. Jenkins), the Wrexham Philharmonic choir (conductor, the Rev. C. H. Hylton-Stewart, M.A.), the Swansea District choir (conductor, Eos Morlais), the Abercarn choir (conductor, Mr David Bowen), the Penrhyn Arvonian choir (conductor, Dr. Roland Rogers). The number of voices was 200 to 250; the first prize, £200 and a gold medal to the conductor; and second prize £50. The pieces selected were "I Wrestle and Pray" (Bach); "Wretched Lovers" (Handel); "Come with Torches" (Mendelssohn). The adjudicators were Sir George Macfarren, Signor Kandegger, Mr Joseph Bennett, Mr John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia), Dr. Joseph Parry, and Mr D. Emlyn Evans. The numbers of members in the choirs were given as follows:—Huddersfield 246, Nottingham 214, Pontypool and Abersychan 238, Llanelly 237, Wrexham 237, Swansea 250, Abercarn 250, Penrhyn 242. Each choir was warmly cheered by their respective friends at the commencement and at the close of their performances. It was generally admitted that this competition was of much greater merit than any in the history of the Welsh national gathering, and there was general excitement and enthusiastic cheers after most of the performances.

We take the account of the competition given by the musical critic of the *Athenæum*:—Two English and six Welsh choirs entered, and some most striking displays of choral singing were listened to by the judges and the audience. The former were the same as before, except that Mr Jenkins was replaced by Dr Joseph Parry. The test pieces were J. C. Bach's motet, "I wrestle and pray," Handel's "Wretched Lovers," and Mendelssohn's "Come with torches." Three choruses better calculated to try the merits of a body of chorists could not have been selected. The proceedings lasted over five hours, and it was not surprising that the judges were again unable to agree. The first prize was, therefore, divided between the Huddersfield and the Arvonian Choirs, and, perhaps, on the whole, this decision was as just as any that could have been made. For stupendous power, and pure, penetrating tone the Penrhyn singers surpassed anything we have ever heard. The effect in Handel's and Mendelssohn's choruses was simply electrical. On the other hand, the Yorkshire body is a perfectly balanced and perfectly trained force, and though in mere volume of tone it had to yield the palm to two or three of the Cambrian societies, yet even in this respect we fancy that it would prove itself far superior to any London choir of the same dimensions. The fact is, the standard of merit on this occasion was so exceedingly high that it was necessary to be hypercritical in order to institute comparisons. The second prize was allotted to the Swansea District Choir, another superb force, and one very fortunate in its conductor, Eos Morlais, a gentleman whose Saxon name, we believe, is Robert Rees. He has his singers under perfect control, and the effect was that of a magnificent quartet. In any ordinary competition the well-balanced and pure-toned Wrexham Philharmonic Choir would have won the highest admiration. Excellent results were also obtained from the Llanelly and Abercarn Choirs. We noted that while a few used staff notation parts and a few Tonic Sol-fa, by far the larger proportion of the Welsh chorists dispensed with copies altogether. We would suggest that in future a sight-reading test should be imposed. It would afford a capital opportunity for comparing the merits of the two systems of notation for large bodies of amateur singers.

After the interval, during which the judges considered their award,

Sir George Macfarren delivered the following adjudication:—Mr President and Welshmen,—The scandal is refuted which is repeated from year to year, that in your part of the island you allow no merit to compete with your own, since you have in the most hospitable manner invited persons outside to compete with you. You have in the noblest manner stood the test by the side of one another, and proved that you are capable of the most beautiful performances. You have proved this all the more, because you have brought yourselves side by side with singers from the other side of the mountains. To-day again, as yesterday, the votes of the six adjudicators are equally divided for the first prize, and using the prerogative allowed by the laws of the Eisteddfod, the first prize is divided between the Huddersfield choir and the Penrhyn choir, with a gold medal to the conductor of each. The second prize is unanimously awarded to the Swansea choir. (Applause.)

The conductors of the successful choirs were afterwards invested with the honours which they had respectively won.

Mr Dyved Lewys then sang the popular old Welsh ballad, "Hen wlad fy nhadau," accompanied on the piano by Dr Joseph Parry, the audience joining the chorus with remarkable vigour, after which the Eisteddfod meeting was brought to a close.

The evening concert was well attended. Mr Stephen Evans presided, and the artistes included Miss Mary Davies, Madame Annie Williams, Madame Edith Wynne, Miss Beata Lloyd Francis, Miss Eleanor Rees, Miss Blodwen Jones, Miss Marian Price, Messrs Dyved Lewys, Lucas Williams, John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia), James Sauvage, Eos Morlais, Edward Owen, F. W. Griffiths, D. Hughes, and the successful choirs in the chief choral competitions.

THURSDAY—CHAIR DAY.

The attendance on Thursday was not very large, and in the absence of the Marquis of Bute, who was to preside, Mr Lewis Morris took the chair. At the Gorsedd previously held, Clwydfardd presided, supported by Hwfa Môn, Gwalchmai, Llew Llwyfo, Alltud Eivion, Eivionydd, Glanystwyth, Pelagius, Iago Wyn Tegai, and others. There were only two candidates for bardic honours, Messrs Morris Pritchard, Gwalchmai, Anglesey, and J. E. Davies, Rhuddlan, Flintshire. The former had been examined for a degree in bardism, and pronounced worthy of the title of "bard" under the nom de plume of "Iorwerth o Fon." Upon Mr Davies was conferred the degree of "Cerdor," musician, to be known henceforth in musical circles by the name of "Clwydian." The Wrexham National Eisteddfod of 1888 having been proclaimed, the Archdruid stated that provincial Eisteddfodau would be held this year at Portmadoc and Llandudno, each of which would undoubtedly be attractive. An interesting incident occurred during the proceedings of the Gorsedd. The Druids and Bards installed Mr J. C. Parkinson as the Arch Ovate of the Bards of Wales. Mr Parkinson was elected an Ovate by the Druids and Bards two years ago, after his inaugural address as President of the Aberdare Eisteddfod. The dignity is one of great antiquity, which, after having been held in abeyance for many centuries, was now specially revived in recognition of Mr Parkinson's knowledge of the mystic traditions and scattered literature of the Cymry.

Mr Lewis Morris, in opening the Eisteddfod meeting, having expressed his regret at the absence of Lord Bute, said Mr Henry Richard had addressed himself chiefly to their Welsh fellow countrymen, and he might perhaps be allowed to address himself to their English friends. He proceeded: What I would ask Englishmen and Englishwomen who have been present is whether their experience of Eisteddfodau is not on the whole favourable. Those who have been present have heard great choral competitions principally in Welsh, but to which we generously admitted our English brethren and sisters with what result we all know. For my own part I should have been proud if Wales had succeeded, but in all fairness let the best man win. (Cheers.) Our English visitors on Wednesday listened to a choral competition in which working men and working women, iron workers, copperworkers, and labouring peasants, interpreted some of the most sublime music. (Cheers.) I ask our English friends whether they do not consider that the choirs evinced a high degree of excellence? Having alluded to the principal competitions for the day he proceeded:—I doubt whether there is an academical society in England which could deal with a wider range of subjects than is shown in these competitions of working people—(hear, hear)—and it comes to this, that we are engaged to-day in celebrating what is now called a survival which has come down to us from a remote antiquity, of which it has been well said, that those who handed down these traditions to us only partially understood the secret. (Hear, hear.) Here in this vast modern hall, built to commemorate a Royal sorrow which has hardly yet dried its tears, there appears suddenly the

presence, not vague and ghostly, but living and breathing, of a nationality and a civilisation beyond the ken of our history. Here, in this immense cosmopolitan city, are invaders who are no others than the aboriginal people of this island, speaking an old tongue which no Englishman it would seem can ever master, to whom London is still "Caerludd," in the Chair or province of Arthur, and, as the motto of the Chair runs, "under the sole protection of God and of his peace." Here is surely a text on which any number of reflections might be founded. Reflect a little on the significance of to-day's scene; how tenacious of life is the Celtic spirit, how deeply engrained its national tastes and national characteristics, how permanent the hold of an ancient language upon Cymric minds and Cymric hearts! Having satisfied yourselves of these things go on boldly to draw such conclusions as may suggest themselves to you on the value of every true national type, and of the necessity for developing it, if at all, on its own lines. Consider whether it is desirable to attempt to make of this and the other races under your sway, copies, not very successful probably, of the great English type. Consider, too, whether it is at all possible. Remember what our great poet Lord Tennyson has said when he tells us that "God fulfils himself in many ways, lest one good custom should corrupt the world." And then I am sure you will recognise the full significance of to-day's proceedings, and will have no difficulty in adapting the lessons which they teach to the pressing needs and it may be to the conflicts of the present day. As to my countrymen I would say, while you are proud of your ancient language and ancient customs and of your vigorous national life, learn what lesson is taught by the great material progress of the world-city which some of you now see for the first time. (Cheers.) Music and song are noble subjects of study. Literature and its pursuits are full of solace as well as of charm, but are they sufficient in themselves to make a nation or to keep it in mental and moral health? Has the devotion of the nation to these studies in the past produced altogether adequate results? If not, try and discuss the reason. Do we not want a more systematic training and education than the Eisteddfod furnishes? Might not the institution itself be still further strengthened for good? Do not let us fall into an ignoble self-satisfaction. The uneasy movement of an awaking people is like the cry of a child when it first opens its eyes after a long sleep—a sign of the renewal of life. To-day, however, our purpose is mainly not educational, but healthful and recreative enjoyment. I will only ask you to bear in mind the words of the old bard Davydd ab Edmond, spoken in my own town of Carmarthen five centuries ago on the purpose of the Eisteddfod, when he said that it is "Cofam a fu, ystyr am y sydd, a barn am a fydd." The present of course deserves and must receive our thought, but let us look forward and speculate on the future, because, as the bard says again, we can so deal with it that it may be better than the present or the past. (Cheers.)

The conductors for the day were Mr W. Abraham, M.P., Rhondda, the Rev. Hugh Hughes, and Mr P. Mostyn Williams.—Mr J. Henry's eisteddfod song, "Gwlad y delyn" (the land of the harp), was sung by Mr Maldwyn Humphreys, after which poetical addresses in honour of the president were given by Llew Llwyfo, Elis Wyn o Wyrfa, Glanffwrdd, Pedr Mostyn, Alltud Eivion, Dewi Wyn o Eayllt, Eifionydd, and Cadvan. Twenty translations were sent in of Shelley's "Ode to a Skylark," and the prize was awarded to Mr J. F. Jones (Ioan Ddu), Leeswood, Mold.—Six essays on "The History of the Act of Union between Wales and England" were sent in, and Mr Charles Ashton, Dinas Mawddwy, was awarded the

prize of £20, and a gold medal.—Mr Thomas Price, Merthyr Tydfil, was declared the winner of the prize of £7 offered for a vocal trio for soprano, tenor, and bass.—There were two competitors in playing upon the harp "Sweet Melody," also known as "Sweet Richard," arranged by Mr. John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia). The winner of the prize was Mr Thomas Thomas of Sirhowy, South Wales. The President gave the second competitor, who was only twelve, Master Charles Pierce of Treherbert, South Wales, a guinea, and a similar gift was made by Mr Crow Rees, Cambridge-road, London.—Miss Marian Price sang "Cwynfan Prydain."—Professor Rowlands, Brecon, delivered the adjudication upon the librettos, in English and Welsh, for an opera, the subject being "Boadicea." The prize, £25, was withheld, the adjudicators suggesting that it should be offered again.—Four bards sent in poems (Pryddestau) on "The Welsh Language," in competition for the prize of £20 and a gold medal. The Rev W. Glanffwrdd Thomas, vicar choral of St. Asaph, was declared to be the winner.—Pencerdd Gwalia delivered the adjudication of Mr Randerger, Dr. Joseph Parry, and himself, on the single sacred cantata for chorus and principal voices, with orchestral accompaniments, on words selected from the Psalms. The composer of the only cantata sent in, signed "Heinrich," displayed considerable aptitude for composition, feeling for melody, and a certain amount of acquaintanceship with counterpoint and fugue, but whilst admitting that the composition possessed some merit, the adjudicators had unanimously decided on withholding the prize, £25.—A prize of £50 in addition to a gold medal was offered for the best Welsh or English essay on "Wales under Queen Victoria." Five essays had been received, but the adjudicators, Professors Ellis Edwards, M.A., Bala, J. E. Lloyd, Aberystwyth, and W. Edwards, Pontypool, had unanimously decided to withhold the prize. Professor Edwards said that in justice to the public it should be stated that "Dolly" was the best essayist, but the writer had made unfair representations.—130 epigrammatic stanzas on "The Sculptor" were sent in, but not one of them deserved the prize of £5 and a silver medal.—Miss Edith Beale of Wrexham was awarded the prize of £5 for the best performance on the pianoforte of Chopin's "Ballade in A flat."—Mr David Hughes sang "Oh, oh, hear the wild winds blow."—The prize of £10 and a silver medal offered for the best love song entitled "The Lady of the Lake," was withheld, the only composition received, signed "Merddin Emrys," possessing no special merit.—Mr M. H. Roberts, Llangollen, was awarded the prize of £5 for the best design for a bardic chair (suitable for the chairing of the bard); whilst Mr John Williams, Dolgelley, carried off a similar premium for the best specimen of wood carving.

A competition in pennillion singing followed; the successful competitor was Mr William Roberts (Ap Eos y Berth), Bethesda.—Thirty-six competed in the bass solo competition, the test piece being Sir George Macfarren's "Repent ye," and the prize of five sovereigns was awarded to Mr Thomas Harris, of H.M. Prison, Carnarvon.—There were fourteen competitors in the contralto solo competition, "Oh, call my brother back to me." The prize, £5, was awarded to Miss Lucy Clark, Cardiff.

The chief event of the day, the chairing of the bard, followed. Fully thirty bards answered to their names, and formed a half circle round the bardic chair.—The Archdruid said his recollections that day were very painful indeed. Since the last National Eisteddfod at Carnarvon several members of their fraternity had gone

over to the great majority. Death had indeed ruthlessly broken the ranks of the bards. The first to bid farewell was Gwrgant, of London, a poet of no mean ability. Gwrgant and himself were bosom friends, their friendship dating from 1820, when they were boys commencing their Eisteddfod career, each viewing jealously the literary success of the other. He and Gwrgant in 1820 competed for the first time in their lives at an Eisteddfod, in which the prize fell to his (the Archdruid's) lot. Roland Phillips, Dan Isaac Davies, of Cardiff, and poor Iolo Trefaldwyn, next departed this life in succession. Iolo, who was present at the London gorsedd last year, was a good essayist, bard, and pennillion singer. After Iolo, died Ceiriog Hughes, the eos or nightingale of Wales, than whom [a more popular ballad writer never existed. Although Ceiriog was dead, his sweet lays would always live, they would be ever green, and would never be forgotten by the Cymry. He trusted the efforts now being made to establish a Ceiriog memorial fund for the benefit of the Welsh Burns' widow and family would be generally supported, not only by Welsh people, but by those Englishmen who were lovers of the Eisteddfod. Having referred to the late Rev. T. Roberts (Scorpion) as a deep-thinker and bard, the Archdruid said the last, but not the least of the fraternity to depart during the past Eisteddfodic year was the Rev. Dr Edwards of Bala, principal of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist College, a scholar of brilliant attainments. In conclusion, he hoped that all the bards would, while thinking of the past, not forget the present and future, and that when summoned hence they would find a heavenly rest from their labours. The Eisteddfod Choir then sang a hymn to the tune "Meirionydd," and the Archdruid called upon the adjudicators to deliver their adjudication on the seventeen odes entitled "Queen Victoria" sent in. The prize to the author of the best ode consisted of £40, a carved oak bardic chair, and a gold medal. The adjudicators, the Rev Ellis Roberts (Elis Wyn o Wyrfa), Mr R. Davies (Tafolog), and the Rev E. Rees (Dyfed), all well-known chaired bards, stepped forward on the platform prepared to announce the result. Elis Wyn o Wyrfa read the adjudication, which showed that of the odes sent in for competition the one bearing the signature "Ap Tudur" was undoubtedly the best. Its excellence consisted in the purity and beauty of language, simplicity of alliteration, and originality of thought, whilst it was natural and devoid of anything which might be considered extraneous. "Ap Tudur" was well worthy the honour of being installed chief bard of 1887, in the old city of King Lud. The trumpeter being in attendance with his "corn gwlad," the Archdruid in a loud voice called upon "Ap Tudur" to come forth. All eyes were directed to the arena, the audience naturally expecting that the winning bard would make his appearance from that quarter of the vast hall. However, the Rev R. E. Williams, better known as "Berw," left the circle of the bards on the platform, and modestly gave the Archdruid to understand that he was the author of the ode signed "Ap Tudur." He was immediately led, amid prolonged cheering, to the body of the arena, and at the trumpet call was afterwards escorted to the platform by Hwfa Môn and Gwalchmai. The Archdruid asked the usual time honoured question "Is there peace?"—"A oes heddwch?"—to which all present shouted "Peace" ("Heddwch.") The question having been thrice asked and thrice answered in the affirmative, the naked sword held over the head of the victorious bard was placed in its scabbard by the Archdruid, peace was declared, and the Rev R. E. Williams, now seated in the chair, was proclaimed the victorious bard of 1887. Mr Lewis Morris, M.A., afterwards presented him with the

prize, and invested him with the medal amid great cheering. Miss Mary Davies sang the chairing song "Can y Bencerddes ar Gadeiriad y Bardd" with much effect, and bardic addresses followed. Ap Madoc, of Utica, U.S.A., sang "The Land of my fathers," the audience joining heartily in the chorus, and the interesting proceedings were brought to a close. The chaired bard of this year is the curate of Aberganolwyn, Merionethshire, and is well known as the winner of several local Eisteddfodic chairs.

Instead of a concert the evening meeting was a competitive one. Clwydfardd presided, and he was presented, on the part of the Committee, with a silver medal in commemoration of the gathering.—The Cardiff Orchestral Society, conducted by Mr Sidney Fifoot, was the only instrumental society entered to compete for the prize of £30 and a gold medal to the conductor, offered for the performance of the overture "Le Nozze di Figaro" (Mozart), and they were awarded the prize.—Mr W. E. Davies read the adjudication of Mr J. Davies (Gwyneddton), Councillor John Davies, Liverpool, and himself on the hand books in Welsh or English on Eisteddfod management; the prize was divided between Mr B. D. Williams (Darfab), Aberdare, and Mr Gabriel Hughes, Rhyl.—Mr R. S. Hughes, Bethesda, was awarded a prize of £5 for a soprano solo on the words "Song to the Nightingale," by the Rev. J. Blackwell (Alun).—The prize of £10 for the best congregational anthem, with pianoforte or harmonium accompaniment, on words selected from the Psalms, was carried off by Mr Thomas Price, Merthyr Tydfil.—Professor Rhys, Oxford, read an able adjudication by the Rev. D. Silvan Evans, Mr Egerton G. B. Phillimore, M.A. and himself on "The Collections of Folk Lore of any Welsh county, or similar district, excepting Glamorgan." The prize was £20 and a silver medal.—Professor Rhys said that the essays were the best which had ever come under his notice. The winner of the prize proved to be the Rev. Elias Owen, M.A., rector of Efenechtyd, Ruthin. The collections signed "Idris," and "Gwerinwr," were respectively bracketed equal, second.—Pencerdd Gwalla, referring to a dispute with reference to the pennillion singing, said he had decided in favour of Ap Eos y Berth (Mr W. Roberts), Bethesda, Carnarvon. A present of one guinea was given to the juvenile competitor, viz., Master Edmund Evans, Treherbert.—Mr Howel Roberts (Hywel Tudur), Clynog, Carnarvon, was awarded the prize of £10 and a silver medal for the best Welsh satirical poem on "The incompetent interpreter in Welsh Courts of justice."—Mr D. Price sang Blumenthal's "Across the far blue hills," and was encored.—Mr Josiah Evans, White Mill, Carmarthen, was awarded the prize of £5 for the best translations into Welsh of selections from Adam Bede.—Three sopranos competed for the prize of £5 in singing Dr. Parry's "Yr echedydd." Mrs Rees (Linos Rhondda), was declared the best.—A prize of £20, given by the National Eisteddfod Association for a Welsh handbook of domestic cookery and household management, was awarded by the adjudicators (Mrs Rhys, Oxford, Mrs W. J. Parry, Bethesda, and Miss Gee, Denbigh), to Mrs Edwards, Tynnycefn, Corwen.—Eleven Welsh monologues on "The young bard on Cader Idris" were adjudicated upon, and the composition of the Rev. J. J. Roberts (Iolo Caernarfon), Portmadoc, was awarded the prize of 15 sovereigns and a silver medal.—Mr J. A. Jones, Swansea, took the prize of £15 and a silver medal for the best recitative poem on "Wales that is to be."—The first and second prizes of £20 and £10 respectively offered for figure paintings in oil, illustrative of an historical or poetic subject, were withheld, there being no merit in the three paintings sent in. The landscape paintings also were

deemed unworthy, and no awards were therefore made.—Mr D. D. Roberts, Carnarvon, was presented with an honorarium of £5 for relieve figure subjects.—Two parties competed in the singing of the quartet "The Lord is high" (Sullivan), and Mrs Rees (Llinos Rhondda), and party, carried off the prize of £10.—The translation into English of twelve Welsh hymns possessed no merit, and the prizes were withheld.—Mr W. T. Rees (Alaw Ddu), Llanelly, was the author of the best essay on "Practical means for improving the position of Wales as regards orchestral music," and received £10 and a silver medal.—The adjudicators announced that there was no merit in the twelve epigrammatic verses on the rivers of Wales, and they had withheld the prize of £10 and a medal.—A prize of £20 was offered to the best Welsh choir able to sing correctly at sight in old notation or tonic sol-fa notation, but only one party, that of the Fetter-lane Solfaists, ventured to come forward, and the prize was withheld.—At this point the following telegram was read from Mr W. Abraham, M.P. (Mabon):—"House of Commons. To Chairman, Eisteddfod, Albert Hall. The Queen has been pleased to confer the honour of knighthood on Mr J. H. Puleston, M.P., in recognition of the London Eisteddfod." The announcement was received with loud cheers.—Mr M. O. Jones, Treherbert, was declared the winner of the prize of £30 and a gold medal, given by the National Eisteddfod Association, for the best "Biographical and critical accounts of Welsh Musicians from the earliest times to the middle of the 19th century."—Mr B. Morris Lewis, Chelsea, carried away the first prize of £10 for a series of six outlines in Indian ink; and Mr W. Davies, Bangor, was awarded a prize of £5 for an original baritone song on words selected by the Committee.—A competition in singing a tenor and bass duet, "Haste, my Nanette," resulted in the prize of £5 being awarded to Messrs J. Hawkin and W. Williams, Maesteg, South Wales.—The Rev. J. Hughes (Glanystwyth), proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Archdruid, and Pencerdd Gwalia seconded, and the motion was carried with acclamation.

FRIDAY.

ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales was not present at the "Highest Assembly of the Isle of Britain," held in Hyde-Park on Friday morning, but he presided for about an hour and a half at the fifth and most successful Eisteddfod meeting in the Albert Hall in the afternoon. The president of the day was Sir John H. Puleston, M.P., who occupied the chair before the arrival of the Prince of Wales, and during the subsequent proceedings, and amongst others on the platform were—Mr H. Richard, M.P., Mr Lewis Morris, Archdeacon Griffith, Mr Stanley Leighton, M.P., the Hon. George Kenyon, M.P., Mr Swetenham, M.P., Mr Cornwallis West, M.P., Mr W. Abraham, M.P., and all the bards of the Eisteddfod. The audience was much larger than it had been at any time during the week, this no doubt being accounted for by the fact that for the first time in Eisteddfodic history the Prince and Princess of Wales were to grace the national gathering with their presence.

Sir J. H. PULESTON, in the course of his presidential address, congratulated his countrymen on the successful progress of their ancient institution, and on the fact that their own Prince of Wales was to honour them with his presence in the chair. (Loud cheers.) No fact in connection with the National Eisteddfod of Wales would be received with more gratification than this through the length and breadth of that Principality they loved so well—that part of the United Kingdom where unswerving loyalty

had been the chief element in the life of the people. (Cheers.) After speaking of the history of the Eisteddfod, he said they were assembled that day to perpetuate that which welded together the Welsh-speaking race, who, proud of their ancestry and of the courage and intelligence which preserved for them their language, their poetic spirit, and their aptitude for music, annually assembled in friendly competition on subjects the study of which developed the intellectual faculties of a people, who were stimulated by these festivals to the more full development of their natural resources in music, poetry, literature and art. (Cheers.) Their language survived the legal ban mercilessly imposed in the time of Henry VIII., and it would survive the more modern fashion which sought to shew that it was a hindrance to the progress of the Welsh youth. It was his conviction that the preservation of the Welsh language so far from being an obstacle to the study of the English and of every living and dead language, was, on the contrary, a lever by which to attain greater proficiency. It could be no barrier to progress in life to be imbued with the feelings and aspirations which the love for one's native land imparted; and these qualities of our human nature were surely not well preserved by forgetting or ignoring the language of the old freside at home. (Cheers.) In conclusion the President said:—"The greater educational facilities we now have in Wales are largely due to the machinery of the Eisteddfod, which was put in motion by a great Welshman of our own day, and I believe it will be the privilege of the one who will fill this chair in Wrexham next year, to congratulate my countrymen on the passage of the greater and remaining measures of Welsh education urgently demanded in the best interests of the whole people of the Principality—thus putting the coping stone on the monument of Sir Hugh Owen, whose name will be in the sacred keeping of the Cymry of all time. (Cheers.) I have only to urge that the Eisteddfod shall, in the future as in the past, rigidly hold to its strictly national character—that on this platform there shall be no semblance of differences between classes or creed; that diverse as may be our opinions on political, social, or religious questions, these opinions shall have no place here; and that we shall continue to be guided by the spirit of common brotherhood, and animated in all our efforts by the truest feeling of loyalty to the Crown and to the Constitution under which we live. "Our destinies," said Mr Henry Richard on one occasion, "are more closely bound up with our Anglo-Saxon neighbours than any part of the United Kingdom; whatever is done for England is done for Wales;" but I fully concur with my hon friend that there are matters in which the special circumstances of our country may justify separate legislation; and my hope is that the Eisteddfod, while avoiding contentious subjects, may always be found a willing agency in the promotion of all that best concerns the interests of Wales and the Welsh people. (Cheers.) I wish to refer to a personal matter, but I have to acknowledge this publicly rather on behalf of our national institution than of myself, although I fully appreciate the honour that the Queen has conferred upon me. (Cheers.) I am sure it will be well and thoroughly understood, not only here to-day but throughout the length and breadth of the Principality, that I have been but the humble instrument of receiving for the Eisteddfod a compliment to our nationality and to this institution of which we are so proud, and I feel that in thus honouring the Eisteddfod through my humble self, we are encouraged from the highest quarter in the most gratifying manner, to do all and everything that will contribute to the advancement of our country and to the best interests of the nation at large. (Cheers.)

The Prince, who was accompanied by the Princess and their three daughters, and Thakore Saheb of Limbdi, arrived at noon, and was received at the entrance hall by Sir J. H. Puleston, the members of Parliament who were present, the bards, and the Executive officers of the Eisteddfod. The Misses Puleston presented a beautiful bouquet to the Princess. The appearance of the Royal party in the great hall was the signal for a most enthusiastic outburst of loyalty. Amidst continuous cheers and cries of "Our own Prince" from many parts of the building, the Prince and Princesses were conducted to the dais in front of the organ. On the platform were the Eisteddfod choir and the band of harps—numbering fifteen—arranged to form a half circle, with Mr John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia) conducting. The choir sang and the organist and harpists played, in splendid style, "God bless the Prince of Wales," at the finish of which the audience again cheered the Prince for several minutes. Eos Morlais, by special request, very effectively sang the solo "God bless the Prince of Wales," and the audience took up the chorus in the most hearty way.—Sir J. H. Puleston read an address to their Royal Highnesses, cordially welcoming them and sincerely thanking them for their attendance.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, who was again loudly cheered, said—I am deeply sensible of the welcome which I have received from so many of the inhabitants of Wales assembled here to-day for their great annual festival, chiefly dedicated to the music, poetry, and literature with which the Principality has for ages past been so honourably identified. It affords me more than ordinary pleasure to take the chair at the gathering of a people who are justly proud of their nationality—(cheers)—and who have always been conspicuous by their loyalty and attachment to the Crown. (Renewed cheers.) Devoted to the arts of peace in days when warlike pursuits largely occupied popular attention, the Eisteddfod is handed down to us with a history and traditions which all must prize; and the character which it has uninterruptedly borne from the earliest times to the present day for promoting and encouraging the best interests of the people commends this ancient institution to our warmest sympathies. The Queen entertains a lively recollection of her presence at the Beaumaris Eisteddfod—(cheers)—before she ascended the Throne, and the gratification which it afforded her to have presented medals on that occasion to the successful competitors. I can assure you that her Majesty never ceases to take the most unfeigned interest in everything that concerns the progress and happiness of her Welsh subjects. (Cheers.) It has long been my earnest desire to be present at your gatherings in Wales, and I indulge in the hope that at no distant date it may be in my power to pay a visit to the ancient Principality whose name I am proud to bear. (Loud cheers.) I rejoice that you have now improved facilities for higher education in Wales, and that progress has been made in the Welsh Colleges such as has seldom been witnessed in any other country. (Cheers.) I hear with much satisfaction that you are also looking forward to a system of intermediate education, which I hope and believe will confer great additional benefit upon the Principality. I shall always watch with unflinching interest the future prosperity of the people from whom the heirs to the British Crown derive their title—(cheers)—a people whose history abounds in noble and striking incidents, and whose language and ancient literature have been preserved through numerous difficulties and vicissitudes. (Loud cheers.)

The allusion in the Prince's reply to the possibility of his visiting the Principality evoked the most rapturous enthusiasm. The gold badge of the Eisteddfod was then

presented to his Royal Highness by Sir J. H. Puleston, and Mr Lewis Morris offered a handsomely bound book containing translations into Welsh of the "Alcestis" of Euripides by Professor Rowlands and the Rev D. G. Edwards, of Foyston, between whom the prize offered by the Marquis of Bute at a former Eisteddfod was divided.—Then followed the interesting ceremony of crowning the winner on the Heroic Poem, one of the chief honours of [the Eisteddfod], the successful competitor being Cadvan, the Rev John Cadvan Davies, of Aberffraw, Anglesey, who has gained the prize of £40, and the gold medal, for the best heroic poem, the subject being "John Penry." Mr Davies was presented with a green velvet crown encircled by a silver gilt band, and the Prince shook hands with him, congratulated him very cordially, and invested him with the medal.—Penillion singing by Idris Vychan and Eos y Berth, and a song by Miss Mary Davies, "Yn iach i ti, Gymru," with harp accompaniment, by Mr John Thomas, followed, and the Eisteddfod Choir, with the band of harps, gave with admirable spirit and verve the "March of the Men of Harlech."—Mr W. Abraham, M.P., sang as a solo the Welsh National Anthem "Hen wlad fy Nhadau" the chorus of which was sung by the audience with striking effect. — Verses, in honour of the Prince and Princess of Wales, recited by several of the bards, were received with much appreciation, and Sir J. H. Puleston then announced, amidst cheers, that previously to the departure of the Royal party the Prince of Wales had given him permission to make several presentations. Amongst the gentlemen introduced to the Prince, who shook hands with each of them, were Clwydfardd (Mr D. Griffiths), Arch Druid of Wales, who wore one of the medals presented at Beaumaris, as the Prince mentioned in his speech, by the Queen, then Princess Victoria, over 50 years ago; Gwalchmai (the Rev R. Parry), who also wore a similar medal; Hwfa Môn (the Rev. R. Williams), Nathan Dyved, Ap Madoc, Principal Edwards, Mr Henry Richard, M.P., Mr Stephen Evans, Mr E. V. Evans (secretary); the three conductors, Pedr Mostyn (Mr P. Mostyn Williams), the Rev. Hugh Hughes, and Mr Abraham, M.P.; and a number of Welsh members of Parliament. His Royal Highness then shook hands with Sir J. H. Puleston, and the Royal party left amidst enthusiastic cheering.—Miss Ann Edwards of Aberystwyth won £5 for a translation of the writings of Morgan Llwyd into English.—Mr William Roberts (Gwilym Eryri), Portmadoc, was awarded £5 and a silver medal for stanzas as an epitaph on the Rev. John Hugh Evans (Cynfaen).—At this point the President said he had just received a telegram to the following effect:—"First honours first class Latin, London University, won by thorough Welshman, John J. Young Evans, Dowlais, Aberystwyth." (Cheers.)—Two essays were received on the subject of "A critical history of the Welsh poetry of the 18th century," for which a prize of £50 and a gold medal was offered. The adjudicators, the Rev. H. Jones (Tregarth), Professor Rowlands (Brecon), and the Rev. T. Edwards (Gwynedd), regretted to state that neither of the compositions was a complete essay, critically or historically. They, therefore, decided to divide the prize, adding that the essays, if published together, would make a valuable work on Welsh poetry. The sum of £30 was awarded to the Rev. H. Elvet Lewis, Congregational minister, Hull, and £20 to Mr R. J. Price (Gweirydd ap Rhys), Holyhead, the competitors.—In delivering the adjudication of himself, Mr Randerger, and Mr Joseph Bennett, Mr John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia) stated that in the competition for a prize of £7 offered for an instrumental trio for violin, 'cello, and pianoforte, only one composition, signed "Cello," had been received. The work was that of an

exceedingly promising composer, but the adjudicators regretted to announce that it did not possess sufficient merit to gain the prize, which was consequently withheld.—Out of thirty-one bass vocalists three were selected to compete in singing "The Cambrian War Song" (Mr Brinley Richards), and the prize of £5 was awarded to Mr John Johns (Alawydd), Pontypridd.—The adjudication of Professor Rowlands (Brecon), and Mr D. Emlyn Evans, on the English and Welsh essay on "The Woollen Manufactures of South Wales," was to the effect that the composition of "Gwladgarwr" was the best. The author of the successful essay was Mr D. Humphreys, Narberth, South Wales.—Following this came an interesting competition in singing the soprano solo, "Farewell, ye limpid streams" (Handel), the prize offered being £5. The adjudicators, Mr Randegger, Mr D. Emlyn Evans, and Mr J. Thomas (Llanwrtyd), decided to divide the prize between two youthful sopranos, Miss Pollie Rowlands, of Pontypridd, and Miss Marion Evans, Swansea, each of whom also received a gratuity of £1 from two gentlemen on the platform. Mr Emlyn Evans, who delivered the adjudication, said the contest had been an exceedingly keen one.—There were two entries in the class for the performance of the first movement of the Aberdare Eisteddfod prize quartet, composed by Mr W. T. Rees, better known as "Alaw Ddu," which has been published by the National Eisteddfod Association. Mr E. T. Roberts and party, Cardiff, were declared the winners of the prize of £10.—Seven contralto solos had been received in the musical composition department, the selected words being "The Fisherman's Wife" (Alun). Messrs Joseph Bennett and John Thomas (Llanwrtyd) pronounced the composition of Mr John Thorman, Regent's-park, London, a native of Maentwrog, Merionethshire, to be deserving of the prize of £5.—Mr D. Parry, organist, Llanwrst, was declared the winner of a similar prize for the best setting to music as a tenor solo of Ceiriog's ballad of "The Trumpet of Battle."—Out of five parties two were selected to compete in the rendering of the duet for soprano and contralto, "Night Breezes" (Rossini). Dr Parry, Messrs J. Bennett, and J. H. Roberts, Mus. Bac., decided to make the award of £5 in favour of Miss Lucy Clark, Cardiff, and Mrs Rees (Llino Rhondda), and recommended the committee to give a second prize to the Misses Bradwen, of Carnarvon.

The pastoral poem signed "Alltud" was declared worthy of a prize of £10 and a silver medal, the adjudicators being Rev. J. Cynddylan Jones, D.D., Rev. D. Adams, B.A. (Hawen), and Mr Morris Owen (Isaled), Carnarvon. The proper name of "Alltud" did not transpire, neither did those of "Anturiaethus" and "Gomer," whose Welsh Handbooks entitled "A Guide to Emigration, designed for the use of farmers and the working classes of Wales," were bracketed equal. In the latter competition the prize was £10 and a silver medal, and the adjudicators were Major Jones, Cardiff, the Rev. J. Owen, M.A., Criccieth, and Mr W. J. Parry, Bethesda.

The choral competition, limited to Welsh choirs, was the last item on the programme. Two choirs entered the lists in this contest, viz., the Brymbo, Broughton, and Bersham, and the Gyrn Castle Choral Societies. The first prize was £100, and a gold medal to the conductor, and a second prize of £25 was also offered. As test pieces the following popular Welsh compositions were selected:—"Fe gyfyd goleuni i'r rhai cyfawn" (Joseph Parry's "Emmanuel"), "Y Gwanwyn," (D Emlyn Evans), and "Dwysydd Noddfa" (leaving out the solo) (J. H. Roberts); Sir Geo. Macfarren, Mr Randegger, Dr Joseph Parry, Messrs David Jenkins, Mus. Bac., J. H. Roberts, Mus. Bac., and John Thomas, Llanwrtyd, were

the adjudicators. The Brymbo Society gave a capital rendering of Mr J. H. Roberts's anthem, as well as Mr Emlyn Evans's glee, but they failed to properly interpret the fine chorus selected from Dr Parry's "Emmanuel." The latter defect was not noticeable in the Gyrn Castle Choir, which gave a masterly performance of both the chorus and the anthem, and would undoubtedly have won the prize had it not been for faulty intonation in one part of the glee. Sir George Macfarren, in delivering the adjudication, said that the merits of the two choirs were so equal that it would be sinful to give to the one four times as high a prize as the other. The judges therefore divided the first prize between the choirs, and awarded a gold medal to each conductor.—A vote of thanks to the president, proposed by Mr T. M. Williams, B.A., and seconded by the Rev Cadvan Davies, was cordially accorded, after which the proceedings terminated.

The Prince of Wales sat in a beautifully carved oak chair, designed by Mr Charles, of London, and constructed by Mr Thos. Humphreys, of Bangor-street, Carnarvon, the birthplace of the first Prince of Wales. The chair, which is Celtic in its character, is a fine specimen of art.

The Ven. Archdeacon Griffiths presided at the evening concert, and delivered a stirring address on the Eisteddfod and its associations. The artists were Miss Mary Davies, Miss A. Williams, Miss Martha Davies, Miss E. Rees, Miss Mary Owen, Miss Hannah Jones, Eos Morlais, Messrs Lucas Williams, F. W. Griffiths, D. Price, Wilfred Jones, Maldwyn Humphreys, and the Eisteddfod Choir, under the leadership of Mr Tom Parry.

SIR J. H. PULESTON, KNIGHT.

It is announced that her Majesty has conferred the honour of knighthood upon Mr Puleston in recognition of his services to the Jubilee Eisteddfod. The new knight is a Welsman by birth, and is in his fifty-sixth year. He was educated at Ruthin Grammar School and at King's College. He has represented the borough of Devonport in Parliament since 1874. Sir John Puleston has closely identified himself with Welsh matters, and has been one of the principal movers in the reform of the National Eisteddfod. Lady Puleston, we believe, is a near relative of Mrs John Thomas, of Ardmillan.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE EISTEDDFOD.

The following letter has been received by Sir J. H. Puleston:—"Pall-mall, August 12, 1887. Dear Mr Puleston,—I am desired by the Prince and Princess of Wales to express to you, and through you to the members of the executive committee of the National Eisteddfod of Wales, their high appreciation of the very interesting meeting at which their Royal Highnesses were present to-day, and to state that it afforded them so much pleasure that they would have willingly remained longer. Their Royal Highnesses were greatly touched by the cordial reception which was accorded to them, and they were much gratified likewise by the excellence of the arrangements. Let me take advantage of this opportunity to offer you my warm congratulations on the honour which has been conferred upon you by the Queen. I remain, yours very truly, FRANCIS KNOLLYS."

THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

On Tuesday afternoon, August 9th, the National Eisteddfod Association held their annual meeting in Queen's Gate Hall, London, at 4:30 p.m., under the presidency of the Archdruid, Clwydfardd.

After tea, to which the Committee had invited all the bards and literati, the Secretary, Mr VINCENT EVANS, read the annual report of the Association for the past year, by which it appeared that the transactions of the

Aberdare Eisteddfod had been published during the year, and that an account of the sectional meetings at Carnarvon had also been issued by the Society, but the chief publication of the year was that of the two prize translations of the *Alceste*, the Welsh version of which, together with the original Greek, had been issued by the Clarendon press, under the auspices of the president of the Association, the Right Hon the Marquis of Bute. A copy of this work would be, in due course, presented by the generosity of the Marquis to every member of the Association. The financial position of the Association was satisfactory, a balance of £195 2s 10d in favour of the Society being reported. The subjects for Wrexham Eisteddfod next year were announced, and an application on behalf of Brecon that the Eisteddfod for 1889 should be held in that town was formally made by the Mayor of Brecon, and supported by Alderman David Evans, London.—Mr Cadwaladr Davies proposed, and Mr D. Jenkins, Mus. Bac., seconded, that, if the Mayor of Brecon, on behalf of the Local Committee, would guarantee that a portion of the surplus of 1889 Eisteddfod should be devoted to the purposes of some admittedly national object, through the medium of the Association, the petition be approved.—The Mayor, after some discussion, having given the necessary guarantee, the resolution was unanimously carried, subject to the confirmation of the Gorsedd of the Bards, to be held on the following Friday morning.—Votes of thanks were given to the Marquis of Bute, to the Officers and Council of the Association, to the Local Executive Committee, and to Clwydfardd for presiding, and the meeting ended.

SOCIETY FOR UTILIZING THE WELSH LANGUAGE. ANNUAL MEETING.

The third annual meeting of this Society was held on Thursday evening, at 4.30, at the Queen's-gate Hall, Harrington-road, London, Archdeacon Griffiths, of Llandaff, presiding. The Secretary (Mr Beriah Evans) read the minutes of the last meeting, which were confirmed.—The Secretary then read the report of the Council of the Society, which had been held earlier in the afternoon that day, in which grief was expressed at the death of Mr Dan Isaac Davies, her Majesty's sub-inspector of Welsh schools, who had done so much for the establishment of the Society and who had so largely contributed to the success which had already crowned its efforts. The Council stated that they could not at present recommend any alterations to be made in the title of the Society, which, as it stood, they thought was a sufficiently concise statement of the aims and objects of the Society.—Dr. Isambard Owen moved the adoption of the report which he characterised as most satisfactory.—Mr Marchant Williams, in seconding the motion, said he would like to see that foolish feeling of shame at acknowledging one's country die out. (Cheers).—The Rev. D. Jones Davies, rector of North Benfleet, Essex, the founder of the Society, said he always rejoiced when he saw that the objects of the Society were gaining ground in the Principality. (Hear, hear). If Wales had had something of the nature of the society a hundred years ago, she would have taken a very much higher rank than she did at present. (Cheers).—Miss Warlow, London, one of the first members of the society, gave a most pleasing narrative of her travels abroad, and of the high esteem in which the Welsh language was held by great Continental authorities.—The report was then adopted.—Archdeacon Griffiths was re-appointed treasurer for the ensuing year, and the other officers were re-elected. It was arranged that the next annual meeting of the society should be held at Bangor.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

INAUGURAL MEETING AND CONVERSAZIONE.

On Monday evening, August 8, the Cymmrodorion Section held their inaugural meeting and conversazione in the Holborn Town Hall, Gray's Inn Road, W.C., at which the Council of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion and the Executive Committee of the National Eisteddfod gave a joint reception to the bards and literati who had arrived in great numbers from all parts of Wales. Tea and coffee were served at 7.30 p.m., to between three and four hundred persons.

At the meeting which followed, Dr. Isambard Owen presided, and amongst those present were Mr C. W. Jones, the Mayor of Brecon, Dr. John Hopkins, Llwydwdedd, Nathan Dyfed, Alaw Ddu, Professor Rowlands, Brecon, Mr Howell Thomas, Local Government Board, Colonel Jones, Ordnance Survey, Mynorydd, Mr Milo Griffith, Mr A. J. David, Principal Edwards, Aberystwyth, Professor Edwards, Pontypool, Mr Cadwaladr Davies, registrar of Bangor College, Miss E. P. Hughes, the Training College, Cambridge, Miss Dylis Davies, London, Miss Armstrong, late head mistress of Dolgelley Endowed Schools, Mr and Mrs W. J. Parry, Bethesda, Mr J. Davies (Gwyneddton), Carnarvon, Mr Isaac Foulkes, Liverpool, Mr P. Mostyn Williams, Rhyl, Mr W. J. Williams, Carnarvon, Mr W. Edwards, her Majesty's Inspector of Schools, Merthyr, Mr Samuel Evans, Bangor, Mr Richards Morris, Middlesbrough, Mr William Griffiths Inder, Worthington, Mr Thomas, Cochfarf, Morien, Principal V. Jones, Cardiff, Llew Llwyfo, &c. After addressing a few words of welcome to the guests, the Chairman called upon

Mr MORGAN LLOYD, Q.C., to speak. The learned gentleman said the Welsh had never forgotten that London was their old metropolis, and they were not likely to forget it either. They had never chosen any other chief town than London. He was a thorough Welshman, but he could not forget that every Welshman was also an Englishman. They as Britons all belonged to one common country. Whatever benefited Englishmen would also benefit Welshmen and vice versa. The Welsh were paying an old debt to their Saxon fellow-countrymen by bringing the Eisteddfod to London. Englishmen had sent many excellent institutions to Wales, not the least being in the matter of its colleges, but now the Welsh had brought them an institution equal to anything they had ever had before, and that was the Eisteddfod, and he trusted that the Eisteddfod would be as much honoured by their Saxon friends as it had been honoured by the Welsh.—Miss Moss gave a pianoforte solo.—Mr Cadwaladr Davies, Bangor, said the London committee were to be congratulated upon the excellent arrangements made, and for the zeal they had shown for the Welsh language.—Nathan Dyfed recited some englynion, after which Miss Beata Francis favoured the company with a song.—Professor Edwards, Pontypool, said he believed the Eisteddfod would create a favourable impression on the English mind. They had that day read in the English press some very complimentary leading articles. They remembered the time when it was otherwise. He was glad to find that the competitions were open, and believed the Eisteddfod was destined to become cosmopolitan. It was now held in America, and he hoped to see it soon adopted on the Continent.—Ap Madog, of America, said the Welsh fire was burning as brightly across the Atlantic as anywhere. The Utica Eisteddfod was notably Welsh in character.—The Rev Mr Brownrigg, Llew Llwyfo, Morien, Mr Arthur J. Williams, M.P., and others spoke, and several songs were sung.

THE WELSH EDUCATIONAL QUESTION.

On Wednesday morning at ten o'clock a meeting of the Cymmrodorion Section was held at the Central Technical Institute, Prince's-gate, for the discussion of "The further development of the Welsh Educational System." The Rev. Dr Edwards, Principal of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth presided, and the attendance included Sir Edward Reed, M.P., Mr W. Rathbone, M.P., Mr John Roberts, M.P., Principal Viriamu Jones, University College of South Wales, Principal Reichel, University College of North Wales, Professor T. F. Roberts, Cardiff, Professor Arnold, Bangor, Miss E. P. Hughes, Cambridge Training College, Miss Dilys Davies, London, the Rector of Merthyr, Messrs T. Marchant Williams, B.A., W. Cadwaladr Davies, Registrar of the University College of North Wales, Bangor, Beriah Gwynne Evans, Secretary of the Society for Utilising the Welsh Language, Dr. Isambard Owen, Hon. Secretary of the Cymmrodorion Section, Mr S. Evans, Bangor, and others.

Principal VIRIAMU JONES, in opening the discussion, said the first point he was desirous of bringing before the Section was the relation of elementary teachers to the universities—a question which was of first-rate importance in Wales. There was a wide-spread feeling, not only in Wales but in England also, that a much closer relationship ought to be established between elementary teachers and the universities. There seemed to be three methods of dealing with the question in Wales. In a large centre of population like Cardiff it would probably be advantageous that a training college should be a day training college, or that at any rate students able to live with their parents or friends should be allowed to do so. A second plan was that the university college should take over altogether and wholly the general education of the students, and that the technical training in the theory and practice of education should be provided for by an independent training college. The third method was to make the training of teachers a department of the work of the university. Referring to the general training of the teachers, he said technical training in the theory and practice of teaching was contemplated in a special department of the colleges. The establishment of such a department had the advantage that it would be useful also in the training of secondary or intermediate teachers. There would then be the opportunity of liberalising the education of elementary teachers, and at the same time adding technical knowledge and training to the education at present received by students preparing to be teachers in secondary schools. This method of bringing the colleges into relation with elementary teachers led them straight into the necessity of founding the Welsh University at the earliest opportunity. For years past they had been talking about intermediate education; and all parties seemed agreed that legislation was required. They might recognise with satisfaction that Bills had been introduced into the House of Commons during the present session, though they had met with the fate of their predecessors, and had been pushed aside in the pressure of the vast accumulation of business under which their Parliamentary institutions were visibly groaning and staggering. (Laughter.) Criticising the Welsh Intermediate Education Bills introduced, he thought that introduced by Mr. Kenyon appeared based in the main on the Irish Bills of Lord Beaconsfield's Government in 1879, and did not seem to him a sufficient solution of the problem which he took was this—how, within a reasonable time, to provide a good, cheap, intermediate school wherever such a school was needed in Wales. (Applause.) He did not think the powers given to the Boards, of requisitioning the Charity

Commissioners to prepare schemes for Welsh endowments, would result in the reforms recommended by the Departmental Committee of 1880 within any short period. He preferred the method incorporated in Mr Mundella's first Bill, viz., the nomination of a special Welsh Commission to deal with Welsh endowments. The proposed National Board would, in the proposed scheme, perform the functions allotted to the Education Department. It would be an admirable plan that the Intermediate Education Board should be part of the University organisation. The University was needed to give unity of purpose and consolidation of result to Welsh educational effort. The various colleges of Wales would be isolated units till the University of Wales existed not in name but in fact. The inauguration of the new colleges was the first step towards it, and he hoped in a short time their success would be so great that they could go to the Government with a strong case and ask them to carry out the admirable recommendations of the Departmental Committee. When the University was founded it would bring about a harmony of sentiment and interest between the colleges affiliated to it that could not be attained in any other way. Having referred to the intense interest taken in Wales in connection with education, the speaker said the Welsh were an ancient race, with separate characteristics, and, according to some people, they were now drawing or ought to be drawing near their end. Such glories as were developed from Cymric nationality were glories of the past, and should be memories merely, and the most graceful thing the spirit of their race could do was contentedly to attain Nirvana in the larger and it must be presumed, diviner current of English life. (Applause.) That was a conceivable view, but was it in any sense a true one? Was the idea of Welsh nationality a spent force? Had it lost its old familiar charm? Did it not move the Welsh heart to strive after whatsoever things were just and of good report? (Hear, hear.) It must indeed be admitted that they were an ancient people, for the generations of the Britons and the legendary heroes were very distant; but where were the signs of a drooping spirit of national weariness? Did they not, on the contrary, discern in Wales to-day the pulsating strength and elastic vigour of new and exuberant youth? There was the thorough-going buoyant political enthusiasm that had not learned the need or value of the political compromise of old age. (Hear, hear.) A vivid and ambitious intellectual awakening was finding voice in the loud demand for a better and more complete system of national education. Was that the sign of old age? (Hear, hear.) And what should they say of the Eisteddfod? The great Eisteddfod idea was clothing itself in a form that year by year was fairer and nobler, finer and more cultivated. (Applause.) Cambria might be old, but her face was not wrinkled, neither was her eye dimmed. The truth was she had been slumbering through the centuries preserving the lines of her youth, and the zenith of her intellectual maturity belonged to the future. (Applause.) He trusted that Wales in the present time of wakening—an awakening as in youthful strength and beauty—would not become possessed by the Philistine worship of false gods. Let her own Prince Harry of Monmouth in the play of the great dramatist give her a text:—

I am not covetous of gold,
Nor care I who doth feed upon my cost;
It yearns me not if men my garments wear;
Such outward things dwell not in my desires.
But if it be a sin to covet honour,
I am the most offending soul alive.

(Cheers.) Let Wales judge wisely of the things she ought

to desire, and work joyfully until they were attained. Lether put far from her all narrowness and exclusiveness of spirit, believe profoundly that God has given to her a mission and a part of her own to perform in the evolution of the high destiny of man, and might she gird herself to her task with simple earnestness and eager faith, thankfully recognizing that it was to be accomplished not by force of arms nor in political isolation, but by intellectual and moral eminence in the closest contact and heartiest sympathy with all portions of the great empire of which she might well be thankful and proud that Providence had willed she should form a part. (Loud cheers.)

Principal REICHEL followed with an able paper, touching upon religious education, technical education, the intermediate system, and the Welsh University.

Mr RATHBONE, M.P., speaking of the development of the Welsh language and literature, said that anything in the shape of exclusiveness without regard to the preservation of the empire would be a curse and a weakness; but if the revival took the form of increased civic virtues and better fulfilment of civic duties it would certainly prove a blessing to Wales. (Hear, hear.)

The further discussion of the subject matter of the meeting was then adjourned.

THE INTRODUCTION OF WELSH INTO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The adjourned meeting of the Cymmrodorion Section was held on Thursday morning at ten o'clock. The Rev. Principal Edwards again presided, and there was a large attendance. The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said that before continuing the discussion on "The future development of the Welsh educational system," papers would be read by Mr Beriah Gwynfe Evans, secretary of the Society for the Utilization of the Welsh Language, and Mr William Edwards, B.A., H.M. Inspector of Schools, Merthyr Tydfil.

Mr BERIAH G. EVANS then read a paper on "The place of the Welsh language in elementary education in Wales," in the course of which he said—To make their position clear on this point, he had to state in the first place that they did not want to isolate Wales in language or sympathy from the world around them. They did not want to banish English from their schools. They did not want to substitute Welsh for English as the language of instruction when it was practicable to employ English. On the contrary, one of their chief objects was to bring the Welsh nation into closer contact with the great outside world by teaching its children more efficiently that language which is now the chief channel of commercial intercourse in the four quarters of the world. If they were asked why they wanted to introduce the Welsh language into their system of elementary education, they replied that they desired to do so because they should thereby be aiding their sons and daughters to acquire and cultivate habits of self-respect and self-reliance they were practically discouraged from developing under existing circumstances. They believed that the systematic ignoring of the Welsh language in the schools, the degradation tacitly connected with it in their children's school career, had had a debasing influence on the character of their nation, and tended to implant habits of self-doubt, servility, and possible deceit, foreign to their nature and fatal to their true advancement. They aimed at making the Welsh nation bilingual. A knowledge of a second language involved in itself a valuable education, and made a man twice as intellectual a being as if he possessed but one. The fears of educationists at the outset of the movement might be summarised thus—1. That the introduction of Welsh would add materially to the labour of teachers. 2. That

in schools containing an English element, the scheme would prove to be unworkable. 3. That the teaching of Welsh would result in a lesser degree of proficiency in other subjects, and especially in English. In more than one school it had been shown that the children of English-speaking parents had passed a highly creditable examination in Welsh—one such child, indeed, standing third in the total number of marks earned. As to the injurious effects upon other subjects, it was sufficient to point out that where Welsh had been taught the uniform success of all classes had never been greater; that the children had improved in English, and that in one case the grant for English was doubled on account of the increased proficiency in that subject which followed the teaching of Welsh as a specific subject. In conclusion, he said they aimed at starting their youths on the race of life no longer ashamed of their mother tongue, but proud of it, and in that pride endowed with an innate self-respect to which they had been practically made strangers in the past. With a cultivated intelligence ready to gather additional intellectual treasures, to add to their store, and beginning the race with a good knowledge of two languages, instead of an imperfect knowledge of only one, they hoped to place them not yards behind their English competitors, nor even alone abreast of them, but having the vantage of the possession at the start of two languages instead of one, that they might have a chance they never before had of outstripping their competitors.

Mr W. EDWARDS, B.A., H.M. Inspector of Schools, Merthyr Tydfil, followed with an excellent paper, in which he said there could be no doubt that the exclusion of Welsh from all the elementary schools, from all the grammar schools, and from all the colleges, was damaging to the vitality of the language. He could not deny that the cumulative effects of what he might call the repressive system, acting through many ages, would eventually destroy the Welsh language, especially in combination with many other outside influences, such as were set up by the social and commercial intercourse with England, and the immensely preponderating quantity of English literature. But how much time must be allowed for the completion of the process? More than 200, perhaps more than 500 years would be required to achieve the death of Welsh. The people who were sanguine of the speedy success of the present system did not realize the difficulty of killing a language which at the present was very far from moribund, and might live as long as Dutch or Danish. The total neglect of Welsh would surely help to sap the vigour of the language, but what happened during the long era which must elapse before the end came? A policy which gagged the mouth of a child, stupidly ignored the habits and associations of home, and crushed every native sensibility, could only result in an immense waste of energy, in the lowering of the tone of the nation, and in a paralysis of Welshmen. Was it fair that even a barbarous dialect should be so ignored in education as Welsh was at present? The blame rested upon the Welsh themselves for the continuance of this state of things, for the Department had not yet refused to grant any concession which had been asked for by the Society. It was not proposed by the Society to agitate for the compulsory teaching of Welsh. They wished to make the teaching simply permissive. To a very numerous class, viz., to those who were to become the religious ministers, the lawyers, the doctors, and the teachers of Wales, instruction in Welsh would clearly be a professional advantage. Many were afraid that the longevity of Welsh would be favourably affected when it was systematically taught, even in a parallel line with English. Even if their fears were well founded, the objection could not be listened to, if it were true that only

by bi-lingual instruction could a Welsh child have an intelligent grasp of English. But he felt certain that the life of Welsh would not be appreciably prolonged by its recognition in schools. The status of the language would be raised, a more correct way of speaking would be in vogue, but it was the very essence of bi-lingual teaching that it made the scholar facile in two languages. If Welsh would be strengthened, English would also receive an accession of vigour. But when every Welshman knew English as well as he knew Welsh, and there was no nucleus of monoglots to act as a preservative, the weaker language would then rapidly die. But it would die an honourable death, instead of being strangled in disgrace. Welsh would have done its work. The continuity of the nation would have been preserved. The parents and the children would not have been made strangers by the premature forcing of an alien language. The children of the English resident would be brought into kindlier intimacy with the children of the Cymry. Finally, time would have been given for the transference of whatever was worthy in Welsh literature to the kindly keeping of that universal inheritor, the language of England, in which the genius of the Welsh would find a larger and more durable home. (Applause.)

A discussion followed in the course of which Mr W. WILLIAMS, Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools for Wales, said that the Welsh-speaking children would compare favourably as regarded passing school examinations with the English children.

Mr HOWEL W. LLOYD, who spoke at considerable length, was of opinion that in all probability the Welsh language would die a natural death—when, he could not say. The only plea he had to make for the Welsh language was that it should be allowed to die a natural death. He wished to enter his protest against any galvanic system being pursued to keep it alive. (Laughter.)

Several other gentlemen, including the Rev. John Owen, M.A., Warden of Llandovery College, Professor Phillips of the University College of North Wales, Bangor, Sir Edward Reed, M.P., Mr Iwan Jenkin, Bethesda, and the Rector of Merthyr, spoke; the Rector being ruled out of order in discussing the composition of the Boards proposed in Mr Mundella's Welsh Intermediate Education Bill. Eventually the discussion was adjourned.

THE WELSH UNIVERSITY QUESTION.

Another meeting of the Cymmrodorion Section was held on Friday morning. The Rev Principal Edwards, Aberystwyth College, presided. Miss E. P. HUGHES, principal of the Cambridge Training College, opened a discussion on the "Higher Education of Women." In the course of her remarks she said the English had already opened the doors of the Universities to women, and what they now wanted was good schools for girls. To make Wales educationally vigorous, she must have a national system of teaching, and a Welsh University, and if the University were indefinitely postponed, they would run the risk of not getting one at all, or of obtaining one under most unfavourable conditions.

Miss DILYS DAVIES followed, and in conclusion said she was of opinion that they had committed a fatal mistake in shutting out religious teaching from the Board Schools of the country.

A discussion followed, in the course of which Mr OWEN OWEN, M.A., head master of the High School, Oswestry, said he was of opinion that the entire question of education in Wales—higher, intermediate, and elementary—should be directed and controlled by the Welsh people. They should aim at one complete and thoroughly national system, leading step by step from the village school to the

university. (Hear, hear.) It would take considerable time to build up a complete system, and for his part he saw no objection to build it up gradually, doing the most essential work first, viz., the establishment of scholarships to assist boys from the elementary to the intermediate schools, and from the intermediate schools to the universities. He did not think it had yet been stated whether the new schools under the intermediate system were to be boarding as well as day schools, or day schools only. If day schools only, the advantage would be for populous centres, and boys from rural districts would be forced to come into lodgings within a suitable distance. For boys between 12 and 16 the lodging-out system would be an unmixed evil, and the moral tone of Wales could not be raised. To meet the wants of boys in rural districts, he suggested that elementary schoolmasters who held some higher distinction, or who might wish to go in for such, should be allowed to open a higher department in the existing elementary schools, and receive a substantial grant for higher work done. This would add greater interest and scope to the life of the elementary schoolmasters, and would encourage them in future to go in for a degree of the Welsh University which was to be, he hoped. (Hear, hear.) He believed in a system of evolution rather than separation into classical and modern sides. Why not build their system of liberal education on the foundation of all that was essential to what was termed a commercial education? In conclusion, he proposed "That a conference, thoroughly representative of elementary, intermediate, and higher institutions, should meet at an early date in a convenient centre, to consider the entire question of Welsh education in all its bearings."

Professor RHYS, Oxford, thought they had too much of the examination system, and that little children were over-examined. He wished that more teaching took place at the schools, and more time for recreation was allowed to the children. (Hear, hear.) He was of opinion that the present system tended to contract rather than expand the mind. He wished they could get teachers educated at the colleges. (Hear, hear.) The Government should pay for their education, but in return the universities would give a better education. He felt they ought to have the management of Welsh education in their own hands; but they could not have that unless they could have a Welsh University. (Cheers.)

The Rev. JOHN OWEN, M.A., Warden of Llandovery College, seconded the resolution proposed by Mr O. Owen, and it having been adopted, Dr ISAMBARD OWEN, on behalf of the Cymmrodorion Society, said everything would be done in the way of consulting the chief representative men of Wales as to the place and time of the conference.

Professor RHYS then proposed—"That it is the opinion of this meeting that definite action should be taken to impress upon her Majesty's Government the desire of the Welsh people for the establishment of a Welsh University."

The resolution was seconded by Mr LEWIS MORRIS, supported by Mr W. WILLIAMS, H.M. inspector of schools for Wales, and unanimously agreed to.

On the motion of Dr ISAMBARD OWEN it was agreed, "That this meeting, while deprecating alike attempts artificially to maintain or destroy the Welsh language, cordially approves of the proposals of the Society for Utilising the Welsh Language, to make use of it as a means of promoting the elementary, intermediate, and higher education in Wales."

The meeting was then adjourned.

On Friday evening, at five o'clock, the adjourned meet-

ing of the Section was held, in the unavoidable absence of Principal Edwards (who had been obliged to leave to attend a Council meeting of the Aberystwyth College), under the presidency of Professor Rhys of Oxford, when the discussion on the Welsh Education Question was resumed.

Professor VIRIAMU JONES moved "That in the opinion of the Cymrodorion Section of the National Eisteddfod, the University Colleges of Wales ought to be placed in the same position as training colleges as regards the reception of grants for the training of elementary teachers, provided that satisfactory arrangements are made for instruction in the theory and practice of teaching by the appointment of the requisite additional staff and the provision of the necessary opportunities of practical teaching."—Mr Arthur Williams, M.P., seconded the motion.—Mr Wm. Edwards, H.M. Inspector of Schools, Mr Marchant Williams, Mr Davies of the City of London School, and Professor Phillips of Bangor University College, took part in the discussion, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Miss DILYS DAVIES, North London College, moved "That this meeting of the Cymrodorion Section of the National Eisteddfod is strongly of opinion that in any provisions for intermediate education in Wales the interests of girls should be considered equally with those of boys."—The motion was seconded by Miss Fewings of Dr. Williams's Endowed School for Girls, Dolgelley; and the discussion was continued by Professor Brough of Aberystwyth College, Mr Cave Thomas, and Mr Middleton Evans; and, the resolution having been put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Dr. ISAMBARD OWEN, seconded by Mr A. Williams, M.P., a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Principal Edwards and to Professor Rhys for presiding; to Principals Viriamu Jones and Reichel, Messrs W. Edwards and Beriah Gwynfe Evans, and Misses E. P. Hughes and Dilys Davies, for their excellent papers; to the authorities of the City of London Guild for their kindness in granting the use of the Central Technical Institute for holding the meetings; and to all who had contributed towards making the meetings of the Section so successful.—The vote was acknowledged by Professor Rhys; and, a similar compliment having been accorded, on the motion of Principal Viriamu Jones, to Dr. Isambard Owen, the energetic and courteous hon. secretary of the Cymrodorion Society, to whom largely the credit for the excellent arrangements made by the Cymrodorion Section was due, the meeting concluded.

PROCLAMATION OF THE NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD OF 1888.

GORSIEDD AT WREXHAM.

The interesting ceremony of proclaiming the National Eisteddfod of 1888, which, by authority of the Gorsedd of the Bards of the Isle of Britain, in session assembled last week in Hyde Park, in the city of Caerludd (London), will be held in Wrexham in the Chair of Powis, took place on Monday, "In the face of the Sun, the Eye of Light," on Wrexham Racecourse, before an assembly numbering about 3,000 people, among whom were a large number of the most influential inhabitants of the town and district, including representatives of all classes of the community, from the large landed proprietor to the day labourer. The clergy and ministers of all denominations, and the representatives of music, literature and art were also present in large numbers. The Local Committee of the Eisteddfod, who had been assisted in the perfecting of the preliminary arrangements by a deputation from the National Eisteddfod Association, who visited Wrexham recently for the

purpose of conferring with the local executive, had worked hard to make the Gorsedd a success, and, favoured as they were with beautiful weather, their efforts were entirely successful. The Committee, which numbers amongst its members several of those who were on the Committee of the National Eisteddfod held in Wrexham in 1876, and whose experience in Eisteddfodic matters will be valuable, are fortunate in having as their chairman, Mr Evan Morris, Roseneath, than whom no better chairman could be had, for his energy and business qualities, together with his genial manners, combine to make him pre-eminently an organizer and leader of men. The hon. secretaries are Messrs Simon Jones and W. A. Bayley, both of whom have had experience in organizing similar meetings; whilst the secretary, Mr W. M. Roberts, possesses the experience of having successfully carried out the duties attached to his office at the great Eisteddfod held a few years ago in Liverpool. The whole of the members of the Committee are either men of business, or of literary experience, and we have no doubt that under their charge the prospects of the National Eisteddfod of 1888 will be of the most encouraging character.

About eleven o'clock a procession was formed at the Guildhall, in Chester-street, and proceeded to the Racecourse, along Chester-street, High-street, Hope-street, and Regent-street. The procession was marshalled by Mr J. W. M. Smith, Borough Surveyor, and left the Guildhall in the following order, about 11 30 a.m.:—Band of the 1st Volunteer Battalion, R. W. F.; permanent staff of the 3rd Battalion, R. W. F.; The "Rose of Wrexham Lodge" of the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds, preceded by their splendid banner; the Prince of Wales Volunteer Fire Brigade; members of the Wrexham Town Council; the Mace bearer, Mr D. Higgins, bearing the fine civic mace of the borough of Wrexham; the Mayor and the Town Clerk; the Eisteddfod Committee; the Bards, headed by Clwydfardd, Hwfa Mon, and Gwachmai, on whose breasts were displayed the gold and silver medals, won by those veteran litterateurs in many a hard fought contest in the Eisteddfodic arena. Following the bards a large number of the clergy and ministers, gentry, and other public men of the town and neighbourhood walked two abreast, the various orders of the bardic fraternity, and the Committee wearing rosettes of different colours. All along the route the streets, which were gaily decorated with flags and banners, were lined by spectators, the majority of whom followed the procession to the place where the Gorsedd was to be held, the band meanwhile playing lively Welsh and other airs, including such favourites as the "March of the Men of Harlech," &c., and the bells from the steeple of Wrexham Church—one of the seven wonders of North Wales—rang forth merry peals whilst the ceremony was proceeding. On arriving at the Gorsedd, which consisted of a circle marked out by twelve unhewn stones placed a few feet apart, on the green sward, and having in the centre a large stone, also unhewn, called the "Maen Llôg" or "Logan Stone," upon which the Arch-Druid stood facing the east, the bards at the bidding of the Arch-Druid took up their position within the circle to await the opening of the ceremony. The majority of the spectators, in order to get a good view, crowded round the Gorsedd, and seemed to take a lively interest in the proceedings, whilst many took their position on a grand stand erected close by, which commanded an excellent view of the Gorsedd and its proceedings. Punctually at noon, "ar awr anterth," in bardic phraseology, the Arch-Druid of Wales, the venerable and greatly honoured Clwydfardd, ascended the "Maen Llôg," and, after calling for "Gosteg" ("Silence"), directed Gwilym Alltwn to call out the roll

of the druids, bards, and ovates, the following being those who were either present or represented—several having come direct from the London Eisteddfod:—Arch Druid: Clwydfardd, Bards: Hwfa Môn, Dewi Ogwen, and Gwalchmai. Druids: Llawdden, Cadfan, Ieuan o Leyn, Iago Wyn Tegai. Keeper of the Corn Gwlâd (Trumpeter): Samuel Llwyd. Recorder of the Gorsedd: Eifionydd. Keepers of the Gorsedd Stones: Pedr Mostyn, Glanfrwd, Neifion, Pedr Fardd, Penrhyn Fardd, Alarch Glan Dyfi, Huw Dafydd, Ioan Ddu, Gwenfrwd, Machno, Eos Brymbo, Eos Clwyd, and with them, Rhuddfryn, Eilir Aled, Gwilym Alltwn, Ehedydd Iâl, Alaw Cynon, Carnhawdfardd, Hiraddug, Mervinian, Huw Morus Huws, Alaw Maelor, Pencerdd Maelor, Ieuan Ceredig, and others. The trumpeter having sounded the Corn Gwlâd, Clwydfardd, standing on the Maen Llôg, three times put the question, "Is there peace?" while a number of the bards stood around him with their hands on the naked sword half drawn from its scabbard; and being answered three times in the affirmative by the assembled multitude, he directed the sword to be sheathed, and declared the Gorsedd duly open. The Rev. W. Glanfrwd Thomas then said the Gorsedd prayer, followed by the people, the prayer being repeated in English. Clwydfardd then ascended the stone, and announced that, by authority of the bards in Gorsedd assembled there on the 15th day of August, in the year of our Lord, 1887, he proclaimed that a Gorsedd and Grand Eisteddfod would be held in the year 1888 in the town of Wrexham, within the chair of Powys, "In the face of the sun, the Eye of Light," "Truth against the World," &c. He then pronounced the Eisteddfod to be duly proclaimed, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Bards of the Isle of Britain. Eos y Berth then gave a specimen of the old Welsh penillion singing, accompanied on the harp by his son, Ap Eos y Berth, the air played being that of "Chirk Castle." Pedr Mostyn ascended the stone and read in English and Welsh the preliminary list of subjects for competition at next year's Eisteddfod, and announced that full particulars as to the terms of competition, list of adjudicators, &c., would be ready in October. He also stated that Dr. Williams, Wrexham, would give £2 2s for the best "Hir a Thoddad" on "Machlud Haul" ("Sunset"). An eloquent address was delivered by Hwfa Môn, after which bardic addresses, mostly short stanzas (englynion), were given by Hwfa Môn, Cadfan, Eifionydd, Dewi Ogwen, Iago Wyn Tegai, Gwilym Alltwn (whose concluding lines with reference to the Gorsedd—

Yr oedd hon a'i deffion da
Flynnyddoedd o flaen Adfa,

were received with much laughter and cheers), Penrhyn-fardd, Neifion, Gwilym Gwenfrwd, Eos Clwyd, and Alarch Glan Dyfi, &c. The Arch Druid initiated a number of gentlemen as ovates and druids, each candidate for Gorsedd honours being introduced by Hwfa Môn and Dewi Ogwen. They came forward in the following order:—

OVATES—His Worship the Mayor of Wrexham (Mr J. Prichard) henceforth to be known to the bardic fraternity as "Ioan Meirion"; Mr Thomas Bury, town clerk (Deddfwr), Sir Robert Cunliffe, Bart. (Ap Cunliffe), Mr Simon Yorke, Erdig Park (Ap Gwynedd), the Hon. G. T. Kenyon, M.P., Llanerch Panna (Seneddwyr), Major Leadbetter, chief constable of Denbighshire (Heddwchwr), Mr Evan Morris (Rheithior), Dr Parry Jones (Ap Machraeth), Councillor Benjamin Owen (Rheolwr), Councillor J. E. Powell (Ioan Irvon), Councillor David Jones (Ap Iago), Councillor W. R. Evans (Gwilym Maelor), Councillor R. H. Done (Ap Robert), Councillor S. T. Baugh (Ap Joseph), Councillor W. Pierce (Gwilym Hanmer), Mr J. Allington Hughes, borough magistrates' clerk (Huwco Maelor), Mr Thomas Evans, Rhuddlan (Ap Gwilym), Mr John Robert Burton, Minera (Mwnglawdd).

DRUIDS—The Rev W. Oliver, M.A., Wrexham (Olfyr Sannan), the Rev Walter Evans, rector of Halkyn (Senghenydd).

The ceremony of initiation having been concluded, Mr EVAN MORRIS, the chairman of the Executive Committee, said he was desired by the Committee of the Eisteddfod for next year to seize that opportunity of thanking the vast crowd for attending at the Gorsedd to inaugurate what they hoped would be the most successful Eisteddfod ever held in Wales. (Applause.) After thanking the renowned bards for their presence, Mr Morris said he hoped that large assembly would fully realise the importance and benefits of the Eisteddfod, so that they could heartily apply themselves to make it a great success. (Loud applause.) He believed the present to be a new era for eistedfodau, and, whatever the past might have been, they should, as Welshmen, fully realize that the Eisteddfodau of the future would be a great means of educating Welshmen and encouraging and bringing out Welsh talent. (Renewed applause.) Let them feel that the Eisteddfod was a truly national institution, and let every Welshman come forward and show that he was bent upon encouraging everything that was national and everything that was great and good in Wales. (Applause.) The Prince of Wales had recently said that at no distant date he would attend an Eisteddfod in Wales. The least distant date on which his Royal Highness could attend an Eisteddfod in Wales would be at Wrexham next year—(laughter, and hear, hear),—and he hoped it would reach the ear of the Prince that the inhabitants of Wrexham and that part of the Principality would leap with joy to see him there, and that he would meet with such a reception as would beat any he had ever had. (Loud applause.) The Committee in Wrexham had undertaken a very great responsibility. The expense of putting up a building and the amount of money to be given away in prizes entailed a very heavy call upon their purses, and therefore he appealed to all classes to support the Committee with their money and with their presence. (Applause.)

Pedr Mostyn then introduced into the circle Mr W. G. TAYLOR, F.R.C.I., ex-Mayor of the city of Prahran, Victoria, and a native of Rhosllanerchrugog, who, in the course of a few remarks, spoken partly in Welsh and partly in English, hoped that more attention would be paid to other things at eistedfodau besides music, so as to make them broader and more comprehensive. Training in science and art and technicology was needed by the young of the United Kingdom if they were to hold their own in the competition of life. In order to forward these things he would give £50 in prizes at the Wrexham Eisteddfod, and would confer with the Committee as to the subjects to be selected. (Loud applause.) Mr Taylor also referred to the welcome he had received at the Eisteddfod in London, where he had had the honour of attending to represent the Cambrian Society of Melbourne, and to his recollections of the state of Wrexham and district over thirty years ago, when he left for Australia, and pointed out the great progress which they had made since then in Wrexham and the neighbourhood.

In welcoming Mr Taylor amongst them, CLWYDFARDD said he wished he could see half-a-dozen similar representatives of Australian Welshmen coming over to support their Eisteddfod. (Laughter and cheers.)

Ehedydd Iâl having delivered a complimentary englyn, an example of Penillion singing was again given by Eos y Berth, accompanied on the harp by his son, who played the air "Pen Rhaw," after which Clwydfardd proceeded to close the Gorsedd. The sword being again taken hold of by the bards, the usual interrogatory, "Is it peace?" was put and responded to in the affirmative, after which the sword was sheathed, and the Arch Druid declared the Gorsedd closed.

The procession was then re-formed in the same order, and returned to the Guildhall, marching along Regent-street, Grosvenor-road, Rhosddu-road, Lambpit-street, and Chester-street.

At three p.m. a public luncheon was held at the Wynn-stay Arms Hotel, Mr Evan Morris presiding. He was supported by the Hon. George T. Kenyon, M.P., Sir Robert Cunliffe, Bart., the Mayor of Wrexham (Mr J. Prichard), Mr Simon Yorke, Erddig Park, the Arch Druid (Clwydfardd), and a large number of those who attended the Gorsedd ceremony, among those present being the Rev. R. Williams (Hwfa Môn), Llanerchymedd, the Rev. D. Roberts (Dewi Ogwen), Wrexham, Mr P. Mostyn Williams (Pedr Mostyn), Rhyl, the Rev. W. Glanfrwd Thomas, St. Asaph, Mr Thomas Bury, town clerk of Wrexham, Mr J. Allington Hughes, Mr J. F. Edisbury, Mr George Bradley, Mr N. R. Griffith, C.E., Mr J. W. M. Smith, borough surveyor, Mr Llewellyn Davies, Mr J. E. Thomas, C.E., Councillors J. E. Powell, W. R. Evans, and Benjamin Owen, Mr T. H. Coleman, the Rev. W. Oliver, M.A., the Rev. Walter Evans, Halkyn, Mr Evan Williams, Brynteg, the Rev. Richard Parry (Gwalchmai), Mr Ioan Powell, Brymbo, Mr Williams (Gwilym Alltwn), the Rev. J. H. Hughes (Ieuan o Leyn), Mr R. Lloyd (Eos Clwyd), Ruthin, Mr Robert Roberts, Rhos, Gwilym Gwennfrwd, Mr T. Cartwright, manager of the Wrexham, Mold, and Connah's Quay Railway, Mr J. Woolley, contractor, do., Mr John Francis, secretary Provincial Insurance Co., Mr A. N. Palmer, F.C.S., Mr E. Ll. Lloyd, secretary Alliance Fire Insurance Co., Mr Simon Jones, Hope street, Mr G. W. Taylor, F.R.C.I., Melbourne, Victoria, Mr Manuel, Australia, Mr George Bevan, Mr H. Morris (Rhuddfryn), Corwen, Mr W. M. Roberts (secretary), Dr Parry Jones, Mr Benjamin Powell, Rev. J. Cadfan Davies, Mr J. Thomas (Eifonydd), Carnarvon, Mr Isaac Thomas (Eos Brymbo), Mr Morris Kyffin (Ellir Aled), Mr W. Roberts (Eos y Berth), Bethesda, Mr R. Williams (Ap Eos y Berth), Bethesda, &c., &c.

After the tables had been cleared the CHAIRMAN gave the toast of "The Queen," remarking that in no assembly was the toast of her Majesty's health more loyally received than in an assembly of Welshmen; and nothing, he thought, could have been more appropriate than holding the National Eisteddfod in the Jubilee year of the Queen in London. He hoped the Queen and the Royal Family would more and more identify themselves with the Eisteddfod and other national Welsh institutions, so that if possible the affection and loyalty of her Welsh subjects might be thereby increased. (Cheers.)

The toast was duly honoured and the National Anthem sung.

The CHAIRMAN gave "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," and said he felt sure the toast needed no words from him to recommend it to Welshmen, who were proud of their Prince, whom they hoped to see among them next year. (Cheers.) He was pleased to notice at the Gorsedd that morning the loyalty and enthusiasm displayed by the assembled crowd, when it was announced that the Prince had expressed a hope to be able at no distant date to pay a visit to the Principality. He thought there could be no more fitting opportunity for His Royal Highness to come than to the Eisteddfod which will be held in the metropolis of North Wales next summer. (Cheers.) Never, he thought, was a Gorsedd held in the presence of such an august assembly of bards and litterateurs as the one they had witnessed that morning, and he hoped it would go forth from that meeting that it had been a most successful ceremony, a most important gathering. They had present representatives

of the landed and mining interests, and of several of the best known families in Wales. He thought the coming of the Prince of Wales among them would tend very much to create a good feeling between various sections of the community, and to bind all classes together. (Cheers.) If His Royal Highness should come, he would receive a most enthusiastic welcome, for the Welsh people had long been expecting him, and although "hope deferred maketh the heart sad," still they were confident that the Prince would ere long pay a visit to the Principality. He hoped the matter would be so placed before His Royal Highness that he would see that the people of Wales were in earnest, and expected him to come down to Wales. (Cheers.) He had great pleasure in giving the "Prince and Princess of Wales and the other members of the Royal family."

The toast was received with much enthusiasm, and the company sang "God bless the Prince of Wales," Dr. Parry Jones taking the solo, and accompanying on the pianoforte.

Three cheers were called for and given for the Prince and Princess.

The TOWN CLERK (Mr Thomas Bury) said the toast he had to ask them to drink was that of "The Bishop and Clergy and Ministers of all Denominations," that good and noble army of men who nobly worked and fought against the forces of evil, for the good of mankind throughout the world, including, of course, those devoted and brave men who went out as missionaries to distant lands. They were especially blessed in Wales in having such good men in the ranks of the clergy and ministers of all denominations. They found, indeed, that some of the best friends and warmest supporters of Eisteddfodau and other national institutions came from the ranks of the clergy and other ministers. George Herbert somewhere said that "The country parson is full of knowledge"; by that term, in their own days, would be understood the Nonconformist minister as well as the clergyman. (Cheers.) Their field of study was that grand old Book, the Book of books, which contained some of the finest poetry in the world. (Cheers.) He was glad to hear the other day that the winner of the chair prize—the blue ribbon of the Eisteddfod—at London was a young minister—a clergyman—Berw, and they had there among them also the Rev. Glanfrwd Thomas, another clergyman, and their friends Gwalchmai, Hwfa Môn, and Cadfan Davies, well known Nonconformist ministers. In that diocese their respected and beloved Bishop was also a distinguished Welshman; they had also in their own town Canon Howell, their respected vicar, who sometimes liked to adversely criticise the doings of their Town Council, and whom, but that his calling debarred him, they would be glad to see a member of the Council. (Laughter.) They had in Wrexham an excellent body of Nonconformist ministers, among whom was their friend the Rev. D. Roberts (Dewi Ogwen) and others. He begged to couple with the toast the names of the Rev. W. Glanfrwd Thomas and the Rev. David Roberts.

The toast was duly honoured, and

In responding, the Rev. W. G. THOMAS said that the Bishop, although now bearing the weight of over eighty years, took the liveliest interest in all that concerned the welfare of the people of Wales. He was the first of modern Welsh-speaking bishops, and his name would mark a reviving period in connection with the Welsh Church, the Welsh language, and Welsh literature. (Cheers.) On behalf of the clergy he thought he could say they were on the best of terms with their friends the Nonconformist ministers, they all served the same master, and hoped in the end to go to the same mansion, where Welsh alone would be spoken. (Laughter and cheers.) The clergy, he was glad to say, were now all taking an interest in the Eisteddfod, from

the bishop down to the curate. That morning his friend, Mr Evans, the rector of Halkyn (Senghenydd) was taking part in the Gorsedd. Mr Evans was a descendant of one of the old Welsh princes. (Cheers.) Not only did the clergy take an interest in the Eisteddfod, but they took part in its competitions, and were able to give a very good account of themselves. It was the Rev. R. E. Williams (Berw), curate of Llanfihangel y Pennant, who won the chair at the London Eisteddfod. In conclusion, to show that he cherished the old language, Mr Thomas spoke a few words in Welsh, and recited the following englyn—

Y Gynraeg, gem aur yw hi—a syw barch,
Oes y Byd fo iddi;
Fira'n iaith—na chym'rwn i
Dunell o aur am dani.

(Cheers.)

The Rev. D. ROBERTS, on behalf of the Nonconformist ministers, also replied. He thanked their respected Town Clerk for his kindly expressions respecting his brethren and himself. They all met as Welshmen on the platform of the Eisteddfod—they knew no sects, no politics. He wished the toast had fallen into the hands of one better able to respond in the English language than he was, for he had always fought his way, and spoken in the old but time-honoured vernacular of Wales. Still, if he might be allowed to make a suggestion to his English friends, he would advise them to get a Welsh Grammar—(cheers)—and begin to study the Welsh language, so that when the Eisteddfod came, they might be able to enjoy the proceedings thoroughly. (Cheers.) They would then understand what was meant by the words “Y gwir yn erbyn y byd,” “Yn ngwyneb haul, llygad goleuni”—(cheers)—they would then be able to pronounce the words Rhos-llanerchrugog, Llanfihangel-Mathafarneithaf, and many others. (Laughter and cheers.) He was glad to hear his friend refer to the Bishop. He (Mr Roberts) had great respect for the Bishop, especially since one little incident took place, when he was mistaken for his lordship. That proved to his mind that after all a bishop was not very unlike a poor Nonconformist minister. (Laughter and cheers.) Indeed, he might be allowed to call his brethren and himself Bishops without the pale. He again begged to thank them for their kind reception of the toast. (Cheers.)

The Hon. G. T. KENTON, M.P., proposed the toast of “The Mayor and Corporation of Wrexham” in felicitous terms. He was there fresh from the House of Commons, and fresh from the Eisteddfod. A great statesman had said that half of them were muzzled Ciceros, and the other half garrulous Catalines. He hoped he belonged to neither class. He belonged to a much superior class of animals, for he was an “ovate”—(laughter)—and his bardic name was “Seneddwr” (Senator). He would just like to ask the learned gentleman who presided at the Gorsedd how long it would take an “ovate” to “hatch” into something better and bigger. (Laughter.) But a much more important question for him was, would his name be an appropriate one that time next year? (Loud laughter.) He had met many English friends at the Eisteddfod in London, who were extremely pleased with the proceedings. One gentleman said he had gone there prepared to be bored, but he had been entirely pleased. He thought that the case of the Eisteddfod was never better placed before the public than it had been by the Prince of Wales in his address at the Eisteddfod. If they wished to preserve the respect of their brethren across the Dyke, they must not allow their national sentiment to outrun the bounds of what the English people considered was right. In concluding his remarks he said he felt he was touching on a rather difficult question, but as the motto of the great National Eisteddfod was “Peace,” might he not appeal to

that assembly—as representing that great national institution—to use their influence in the interests of peace? (Hear, hear.) He would not allude further to a somewhat dangerous question, but would only say that he believed every true Welshman—though he might have his grievances, and though he might consider there were difficulties and dangers in the way—was loyal, religious, and law-abiding. (Hear, hear.) He claimed from the National Eisteddfod of Wales that they would use their influence individually and collectively in favour of peace, so that when next year came round and the bard asked “Is it peace,” they would be able to say “It is peace.”

The toast was drunk with loud applause.

The MAYOR, in responding to the toast, said that with the construction of the new railway across the Dee, the first cylinder of which would be laid by their old friend and neighbour, Mr Gladstone, on Tuesday, Wrexham and the neighbourhood were entering upon a new life altogether, for they would be enabled to take the mineral wealth of the district into the midst of the consumers in the great centres of industry. (Hear, hear.)

Sir ROBERT CUNLIFFE submitted the toast of “The Bards of Great Britain.” He supposed he must confine himself to those bards who wrote in the Ancient British tongue, or he would include in the toast the name of a most eminent Welshman, the author of the “Epic of Hades,” and “The Songs of Two Worlds”—Mr Lewis Morris. (Cheers.) He supposed he was right in saying that Mr Lewis Morris could not write in Welsh. But he says in “The Songs of Two Worlds,” in a poem on “My Motherland,” that there “the ancient fire still dwells” (Cheers.) Referring to his friend, Mr Kenyon's, remarks about the Eisteddfod, which he could endorse, he said if in rude and ancient days it was the vocation of the bards to draw the attention of the people to the arts of peace, and to wean them from the turmoils of war, still more was it their duty to do so in these days, looking at the conditions of the times in which we live. He hoped that the youth of Wales would be induced to cherish not merely a love for Welsh, but also for English literature. (Applause.) He had been informed that the knowledge of such a light and entertaining literature as the works of Sir Walter Scott was very limited in Wales. It should not be so. They were indebted as Welshmen to English literature, and should not be ashamed of owning it. But at the same time English literature from the time of Spenser down to that of our modern Laureate, the author of the beautiful “Idylls of the King,” was indebted to Welsh literature for its beauties and its flowers of imagination. (Cheers.) In conclusion he emphasized the remarks of Mr Kenyon as to the need for peace. Although they had their differences, they had still much in common, and when the Prince of Wales visited Wrexham next year—as he hoped would be the case—they should all unite in welcoming him as citizens of a common country, bound in one common band as upholders of the throne. (Loud applause.)

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

Song—“Hen wlad fy nhadau,” Mr Ioan Powell, who accompanied himself on the pianoforte, the company joining him in the chorus.

CLWYDFARDD responded. The bards, he said, although a very small family, were still a very happy one—(cheers)—a very cheerful lot. From the great crowds who met at the Gorsedd he thought the spirit of the Eisteddfod had fallen upon Wrexham—(cheers)—and that they would have a very fine meeting. Since he could remember, a large quantity of really good literature had been added to the stores in the keeping of the Welsh language. (Cheers.) When he began his literary career in 1824, there were

only one vocal and one instrumental contest at each Eisteddfod. With that exception they were confined to poetry. Since then they had admitted the essay, and afterwards came the great musical competitions—(cheers)—which are, without doubt, the most popular element of the Eisteddfod.

The MAYOR proposed "Success to the National Eisteddfod of 1888, and the Council of the National Eisteddfod Association in London," and said there was every reason to believe the Wrexham Eisteddfod would be a great success. He coupled with the toast the name of the Chairman.

The toast was most warmly received.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply, said the proceedings of that day had given the Committee great confidence. Although he rejoiced to see that Eisteddfodau had been held across the border, they were essentially a national institution, and if they were to be permanently successful they must be so financially. The National Association ought to assist local districts to carry out the work. It was too much to ask any local community to be burdened with the expense of providing a building in which to hold the gathering, and he thought they ought to consider immediately whether they could not provide a movable building. (Applause.) He believed that if they could get a movable building at a cost of not more than £5,000 it would be a great financial success, and would be the best means of establishing the Eisteddfod in Wales. (Hear, hear.) He himself should be glad to take £200 in shares, and he believed that Welshmen could be found to take up the remainder. (Hear, hear.) Then the Prince of Wales should be at once approached with a view to his attending the Wrexham Eisteddfod, for his visit would give it a great impetus. In conclusion, the Chairman appealed to all Welshmen to come forward and help in making the gathering a success.

The Rev. W. OLIVER gave "The Visitors" and "The Press," coupling with it the names of Mr Geo. Bradley and Mr G. W. Taylor of Melbourne. The toast was cordially received, and Mr TAYLOR, in responding, referred at great length to the benefits to be derived from technical education. He said it was only by giving our artisans a better education, so as to enable them to compete on equal terms with the French and Germans, that England could hope to retain the trade even of her own Colonies, for in all parts of the world we were being pushed out of the markets by those nations who were better educated, and therefore better able to take advantage of any opening that presented itself for pushing trade. (Cheers.)

Mr BRADLEY also replied, and hoped the Eisteddfod would be warmly supported by the people of Wrexham.

Mr MOSTYN WILLIAMS, Rhyl, said with regard to Sir Robert Cunliffe's reference to Mr Lewis Morris, they as bards were proud to give Mr Morris the first place as the best Welsh poet. (Cheers.) He might be allowed to say that it was Mr Lewis Morris who drew up the address which was presented to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales at the London Eisteddfod. (Cheers.) Before he sat down he wished to refer to the sad losses through death which they had sustained during the year, among whom was their townsman, Iolo Trefaldwyn, a man most highly respected, and a very good poet. Also their beloved and immortal song writer, Ceiriog Hughes, whose works were household words wherever Welshmen lived. He begged to move—"That this meeting of Druids, Bards, and Ovates of the Isle of Britain, assembled at Gorsedd at Wrexham, beg to offer their most cordial thanks to the Hon. G. T. Kenyon, M.P., Sir J. H. Puleston, M.P., and others, for the efforts made by them on behalf of the widow of the late John Ceiriog Hughes, the 'Burns of Wales,' and hope that her Majesty's Government will respond in a generous manner to the appeal, in which the whole Welsh nation throughout the world feel a peculiar interest."

The Rev J. CADFAN DAVIES, in feeling terms, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr FRANCIS proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, who was the right man in the right place. The Morris family was a very eminent one. Mr Wm. Morris introduced us into "Paradise." Mr Lewis Morris gave us a glimpse of "Hades," whilst Mr Evan Morris, he felt sure, was going to lead them into something that was far better than either, namely the Eisteddfod of 1883. (Cheers.) The toast was drunk upstanding.

The CHAIRMAN briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the company separated.

The following englyn in honour of the Chairman was written by Eifionydd:—

Yn Ngwrecsam, dinam wr doeth—yw Morris,
Omerydd cywirddoeth;
Dyn a gafwyd yn gyfoeth,
I urddas gwir farddas goeth.

AUGUST 24, 1887.

NOTES.

BISHOPRICK OF ST. DAVIDS.—INCOME IN 1706.—Petition of George Bp. of St. Davids dated Nov. 8th, 1706, to the Lord High Treasurer, asking that in consideration of the smallness of the revenue of the Bishoprick (450*l.* a year) his expenses, payment of first fruits, etc., that the arrears due to the Bishoprick might be allowed him to pay the cost of repairs of the palace and other buildings. Setting out also: the condition in which he found the palace at Abergwilly, the college and chapel at Brecon, the school house, barns, stables, and other out-houses. The palace was so ruinous that it could not be inhabited until repaired.

Minuted—"Recd. 17 Nov. 1706—A privy seal to grant so much of those temporalty as are in the tenants hands and Lucy to be discharged of all he has rec'd and not answered to the Crown; upon his quitting all pretences to any further demands upon acct. of charges, service, and expense upon acct. of prosecuting the late Bp."

Petition of Mr Lucy on the subject of these arrears—(2 pages—*Treasury Papers 1702—1707*, p. 470.)

Z.

QUERIES.

THOMAS WILLIAMS OF ST. MARTINS IN THE FIELDS, GENT.—In the Archdeaconry Court of Middlesex there is the will of the above-named gentleman (1676), in which he devises "My Mannor or farme called Trewerne, or Trewerne Hall, co. Montgomery, lately purchased by me of John Whittaker, Gentleman, William Fownes, Gentleman & Elizabeth his wife, now or late in the tenure of William Beddoe or his under-tenants, to wife for life, Remainder to my only child Elizabeth Williams & her heirs, in default to my nephew Thomas Williams, second son of my brother William Williams of Keynant co. Montg: & his heirs." Who was the above-named Thomas Williams? What Montgomeryshire family did he belong to?

PEARMAN.

AN OLD OSWESTRY THEOLOGICAL AUTHOR. The other day I came across the title of a very rare work, small quarto, written by a John Reynolds of Oswestry, and printed at Chester in 1739. The following is its somewhat lengthy title: "The Scripture Genealogy beginning at Noah and his Three Sons, to the time of Job; and also the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, To which is added the Genealogy of the Caesars, British Kings, Saxons, Deans [Danes], Normans, Tudors, Stuarts, and the Antiquity of the Illustrious House of Hanover. Also a Display of Heraldry of the Particular Coat Armours now in Use in the Six Counties of North Wales, and several others Elsewhere." Who was John Reynolds of Oswestry, and were his attainments as thorough as the title of his work?

Brecknock.

E.P.

REPLIES.

AWST (Aug. 10, 1887).—This is the Welsh word for the month of August.

"Mae val

Aval Awst o velysder."

"It is like the apple of August for sweetness."—D. ab Gwilym.

MYFANWY C.H.

TANATS OF ABERTANAT.—ARMS OF THE FAMILY (Aug. 17, 1887).—The Rev. W. V. Lloyd, M.A., in "Montgomeryshire Sheriffs," under the year 1570, gives the arms of this family as "Per fesse, *sable* and *argent*, a lion rampant, counterchanged." In a note he states this was confirmed with seven quarterings to Thomas, son of Rice Tannatt of Abertanad, co. Montgomery, Anno 1584, and third in descent from Ieuan Lloyd Vaughan. *Visitation of Salop*, 1623. On a reference to Burke's "General Armoury" I find the same coat, with this addition, after the word counterchanged "Armed and langued gules." No motto or crest. There is in Burke another coat, the arms of the Tannats of Blodwell, differing from the above in some degree.

PEARMAN.

ABERTANNAD IN MERIONETHSHIRE, (Aug. 3, 1887).—The four lines from 34 and 35 Henry VIII., c. 26, s. 87, are correctly quoted at page 13 of the "Calendars of Gwynedd" (see *Danby Pickering's "Statutes at Large," 1763*); and it therefore follows that the error, if any, is in the Statute itself. By the "Statute of Rhuddlan" (also copied into Mr Pickering's collection), Merioneth (comprising the Cantref of that name and the Cwmwms of Arduwy, Penllyn, and Edeirnion) was constituted a county; and the arrangement then made apparently continued until Henry VIII.'s reign, when, by the various enactments so fully commented on in the "Calendars," the boundaries of Wales were adjusted as at present. Mr Breese (p. 10), following Humphrey Llwyd's "Description of Wales" (1584), says that the Cantref of *Arwystli*, now part of Montgomeryshire, formerly belonged to Merioneth, and it may be added that a copy of Mr Robert Vaughan's "History of Merionethshire," appears in the "Cambrian Register" for 1795 (Vol. I.) p. 188.

BEN.

WELSH BOROUGH TOWNS (July 20, 1887).—In reply to QUERIST I cannot pretend to state which of the towns in North or South Wales had the earliest Charter granting the Burgesses liberties free from the Lord of the District, but it is contended by early historical chroniclers that the only corporate town in the county of Brecknock was at least one of the earliest "borough" towns. The first Royal Charter was granted to Brecon burgesses by Henry IV. on the 12th December, 1412, and on the 12th May, 1415, three years later, another Royal Charter was granted to the burgesses of this "ancient borough" by Henry V. A third royal charter was granted to Brecon by Queen Mary and King Philip on the 20th March, 1556, and with the exception, I believe, of a short interregnum (*temp.* James I., who bestowed on the town a "Mayor charter" but re-called it in the fourth year), Brecon was governed by Queen Mary and King Philip's Charter from 1556 till 1836 (January 1st) when the Municipal Reform Act abrogated the old Royal Charter. Brecon seems to have been so favoured by their Majesties in 1556, that it was recorded

at the time that "there was not a more royaill bailiff town within the King's dominions: insomuch that it is said that a great statesman of that time, when he heard what Queen Mary and King Philip had done for this Borough of Brecknock, said: *He fancied they were asleep!*" There were numerous charters (or rather tyrannous exactions) imposed upon the borough of Brecon from time to time by those national pests, the Lords Marchers.

E.P.

Brecknock.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Bishop of Chester has been unanimously elected and has accepted the post of president of the Pipe Roll Society.

The death is announced of Mr. George Wiley, of Northwich, well known for thirty years throughout Cheshire as a journalist. He was eighty years of age, and for the past few years he lived in retirement. Mr. Wiley was the founder of the *Northwich Guardian* and of several other local papers.

Mrs Francis, a widow, living at Tymaen, Pyle, South Wales, is reported to have attained last week the age of 107 years, having been born on August 15th, 1780. Mrs Francis is very hale, and can thread her needle without using her spectacles. She moves about with ease, and is able to attend to domestic duties.

The Rev Richard H. Brown, M.A., honorary canon of Chester, vicar of St. Paul's, Stalybridge, and rural dean of Stockport, died last week. The deceased was a graduate of Christ's College, Cambridge, and was ordained by the late Dr Graham, Bishop of Chester, in 1855. After faithfully discharging his duties in other spheres of labour, he was appointed vicar of St. Paul's in 1880. Canon Brown was held in great esteem as a gifted preacher and an able administrator. The vacant living, which is valued at £350 per annum, with residence, is in the gift of trustees.

The nave of the new church which has been erected at Criccieth, dedicated to St. Deiniol, and which, as we stated last week, has been opened, is built on a commanding site at the east end of the town, adjoining the high road from Pwllheli to Portmadoc. The nave portion only of the proposed edifice, which accommodates over 500 persons, has as yet been erected, and has been built at a cost of £2,500. The style of architecture is early geometrical. The work has been carried out by Mr Evan Jones of Groeslon, from the designs of Messrs Douglas and Fordham of Chester. The pulpit is the gift of Mrs Hopkinson in memory of her husband, and a number of other special gifts have been made to the church. Among the preachers at the opening services was the Rev Septimus Hansard, rector of Bethnal Green.

We can do little more than announce the appearance of the *History of the Parish Church of Wrexham*, by Mr A. N. Palmer (Woodall, Minshall, and Thomas, Wrexham and Oswestry,) and add that Mr Palmer's previous works have received the highest commendation from the leading reviews for the conscientious care with which the writer has searched out his materials and presented them to the public. Thus of the "Ancient Tenures of Land," the *Athenæum* said, "Mr Palmer's work possesses that value which is inseparable from the original research of a careful and qualified

student in a field with which he is thoroughly familiar, and comprises features of special interest;" and *Walford's Antiquarian* described it as "simply brimming over with historic information at once curious and accurate." The present volume, which contains several illustrations, forms the second part of "A History of the Town and Parish of Wrexham," and Mr Palmer says in his introduction that the work must end here if this second part results like the first, in pecuniary loss. As to Mr Palmer's work in the volume which has just appeared, no one can look at it without admiring the enormous amount of trouble which he has taken to cast light upon the history of Wrexham parish church, with its vicars and curates, its churchwardens and parish clerks, its parish records, and its sepulchral monuments. The appendix contains an account of the mason marks on the church, the church plate, and the parish charities, extracts from old wills, and other curious matter; and with the History is bound up Mr Palmer's essay on "The Portionary Churches of Mediæval North Wales, and the Sinecurism connected therewith."

"THE ROYAL TRIBES OF WALES."—This work, edited by Mr Richard Williams, of Newtown, has just been issued to the subscribers. It is a handsome volume of 236 pages, printed on antique paper in the best style, and dedicated by permission to the Earl of Powis, who has subscribed for copies for himself and for the Free Library at Shrewsbury. The editor's notes and additions, which are very numerous and elaborate, and evidently the result of very great research, add greatly to the value and interest of the work. The portraits, twelve in number, which illustrated the 1799 edition have been reproduced by the new process of typographical etching.

SCIENCE AND ART IN SHROPSHIRE.—The 54th report of the Department of Science and Art shows that at the Institute, Oswestry, there were 11 science students: fees paid, £4 13s 6d.; grants, £6. 37 art students: fees, £36 5s.; grants, £8 6s 8d. High School, Oswestry, 30 science students: fees paid, £8 10s.; grants, £19. 14 art students: fees, £4 10s. Shrewsbury School of Art 105 students; 64 students sent up 274 works, and payments were made upon 59 artisans. Welshpool School of Art 50 students, and payments were made upon 24 artisans. The children, paid monitors, and pupil teachers taught drawing in the following elementary schools:—National, Criffins, by Ellesmere, 31; National, Ellesmere, 58; Church of England, Nescliff, 45; Wem, British, 62; Wem, National, 30.

The Late Rev. John Jones (Idrisyn).

The Rev. John Jones, vicar of Llandysilio-gogo, better known as Idrisyn, died last week at Newquay, Cardiganshire, in his eighty-fourth year. Deceased, whose death occurred from paralysis, was born at Dolgelley, and was a descendant of the celebrated Welsh clergyman Elis Wyn, author of "Y Bardd Cwsg." He came to Llanidloes about fifty years ago, was employed as a printer by the Wesleyan Methodists, and issued several of their publications. He afterwards went into business as a printer and publisher, his place of business being the Elephant Buildings in Long Bridge-street. He also sat in the Town Council for several years, and was Mayor of the Borough, 1847-8. He was for several years a local preacher with the Wesleyan body up to 1854, when he seceded to the Church of England. During his residence in Llanidloes he was highly respected, and was well-known as a theologian and an earnest and eloquent Welsh preacher. His wife, who died in 1880, was the daughter of the late Mr Pryce Wilson, saddler, of Llanidloes. Mr Jones was

ordained in 1854, and four years afterwards was appointed to the Vicarage of Llandysilio-gogo, in which parish he laboured for the long period of thirty years. To Welshmen the rev. gentleman was best known by his bardic name Idrisyn. He was author of several works, besides numerous sermons, pamphlets, poems, and contributions to the Welsh press. Mr Jones had the honour of being selected to translate into Welsh the Queen's "Journal of our Life in the Highlands." This translation elicited the highest approbation from Welsh scholars for purity of style and idiomatic fidelity. In 1881 her Majesty granted him, through Mr Gladstone, then Premier, £50 annual pension from the Civil List fund, in recognition of his valuable services to Welsh literature. His best known works are "A Critical Commentary on the Pentateuch and New Testament," 4 vols.; and "Welsh Commentary on the Bible," 5 vols., which ran through eight editions.

IN THE FIELDS AND LANES.

At Welshpool a few days ago I caught a specimen of the rare Silver-washed Fritillary Butterfly (*Argynnis paphia*), and another was brought to me. S.J.

The Parsley fern abounds in the locality known as Penclyn mine, near the celebrated Van Mines. Any quantity of the *Osmunda Regalis* can be found on the Welsh coast, particularly in the Barmouth and Dolgelley district. Above a hundred of the tribe of *Polypodiaceae* can be found in the woods near Mount Severn, Llanidloes. Hart's Tongue grows wild near Mochdre in Montgomeryshire, Aberayron in Cardiganshire, and in Anglesey. The Oak fern grows near Trefeglwys, Caersws, and also in the parish of Llanislin.

The seeds of fern which by prolific heat,
Cheer'd and unfolded, form a plant so great,
Are less a thousand times, than what the eye
Can, unassisted by the tube, descry.

—Blackmore.

—LL.C.H.

A short time ago whilst one of Mr Robertson's (Palé) watchers was going round his beat in an upland plantation near Llandrillo, he found to his surprise in one of the steel traps set for vermin, a ferocious looking animal, and it was with the greatest difficulty he could approach him. Being caught by the hind leg, he was springing forward, and striving his utmost to bite him. The watcher, however, managed to set another trap, so that his forefeet were secured, and he was taken alive to the keeper's residence. It was sent to Mr Shaw of Shrewsbury, to be preserved, and Mr Shaw describes him thus:—"He is a very fine specimen of the Beech Marten (*Martes foina*), and has become very rare; they reside on trees, and feed mostly on squirrels. When descending to the ground destroy rats and other small animals." We may also add that in size he is smaller than a fox, and of a dark brown colour with white along the breast, the tail and head very much resembling the cat. He has been well stuffed, and looks very well, placed on a branch of a tree. It can be seen at Mr Thomas Hughes's, Glyn, Llandrillo, (the keeper's house).

J. LI.

THE BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

At the session of the British Archæological Association at Liverpool last week, the Rev. E. P. Gray, M.A., F.S.A., read a paper on the Origin of Christianity in Wirral, in which he said the first to preach the Gospel to the inhabitants of the strip of land between the Dee and the Mersey was St. Kentigern, who came from the north and founded a monastery in Wales, about the year 570, and who named the river Clwyd after a fancied resem-

blance to the Clyde, which he had left. Kentigern died in 612, and St. Asaph carried on the work. In 613 the battle of Chester took place, and Wirral became English territory, the Britons being conquered. There was no relapse into heathendom, and Wirral passed from Marchland into Chester division about the year 660, at which time it was probable St. Cuthbert and St. Aidan preached throughout Wirral, and they, therefore, were the spiritual fathers of the district. There was no doubt that the Norse immigration—just before the year 1000 A.D.—thrust into Wirral the wedge of heathenism, but it speedily vanished before the robust English Christianity by which it was surrounded.—The Rev. W. S. Lach-Szmyrna, vicar of Newlyn, Cornwall, read a paper on the relations of Wales and Cornwall in the fifth, sixth, and seventh centuries. After reviewing the earlier history, the rev. gentleman said the evidence of the connection in ecclesiastical matters was remarkable. Carantoe, one of the chief missionaries of Cornwall, was a Welshman. A great deal of the Christianisation of Cornwall was done by the family of the Welsh King Brechan. St. Nectan, the Cornish martyr, belonged to this race, and also the more famous St. Keyne. Gluvias, of Cornwall, whose name was remembered near Penryn, reciprocated the kind offices of the Welsh. Even St. David, according to some accounts, was of a Cornish mother—for St. Nonna is claimed as such. That military events of the period drove the Britons to combine was a matter of historical evidence, and not only of Arthurian legend. After glancing at the Arthurian controversy, he went on to say it was well-authenticated history that there was a Christian kingdom of Dumnonium, or West Wales, including the modern English counties of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, and Dorset, and certainly a large portion of South Wales. The interchange of religious life in the latter part of this period between Brittany, Cornwall, and Wales was very striking. The three blessed visitors of Britain—David, Padarn, and Tello—were given as illustrations, as well as St. Pol-de-Leon, St. Sampson, and others. Community of languages and common interest and nationality doubtless aided this. Even in modern times the Britons and Cornish could converse, and other languages which he quoted could almost be understood by inhabitants of other districts. At the end of the seventh century, "Gerontius, the glorious King of Dumnonium," as he was called, ruled from the Chilterns to Land's End, from the black mountains of Glamorganshire to the Lizard and Torbay. In the course of subsequent discussion the rev. gentleman said the Cornish, Breton, and Welsh languages were put in the one branch of the same family, and the Irish, Manx, and Gaelic in the other. The Manx and Irish differed from the Cornish—which was now a dead language—in that they had a more complete inflection, of which the Cornish had but a faint trace. The system of numerals was also different. The Congress came to a close on Saturday, when excursions were made to various places of interest in the neighbourhood, and the final meeting was held in the evening in the Walker Art Gallery, Mr W. H. Cope presiding. A party of members of the Association, to the number of between 70 and 80, on Monday paid a visit to Chester.

WHO DISCOVERED AMERICA?

An interesting article on the discovery of America, under the heading "Columbus not First," and signed "Gustave Kobbé," appeared in the *New York Mail and Express* of June 25, 1887. After referring to the various proposals for celebrating in 1892 the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, and giving stories of much earlier visits to the coasts of America, and attempts to colonise there, made

by Norsemen, the writer thus summarises the evidence in support of the alleged discovery of America by Madoc ap Owen Gwynedd, and his followers, to which reference has several times been made in our *Bye-Gones* column :—

One of the most interesting theories in regard to the discovery of America prior to Columbus's time is that which ascribes this honour to Madoc, a Welsh Prince, who, it is alleged, sailed from Wales in 1170, entered what is now the Alabama River, left some of his followers over here, returned to Wales, whence he again set sail to this country with a fleet of ten vessels. Considerable circumstantial evidence of the correctness of this theory has been gathered in this country, and it is perhaps well to give this before referring to the corroborative evidence which is found in an ancient and rare book in the Astor Library, an English translation of a Welsh history, written about 1330, the copy in the library being supposed to be the only one on this continent. It was a tradition among several western Indian nations that the Western country, especially Ohio and Kentucky, had once been inhabited by white people, but they were exterminated, the last battle being fought at the falls of Ohio. Kentucky in Indian means river of blood.

In an account of the discovery of Kentucky published in 1784, it states on the authority of a Captain Abraham, chaplain of Kentucky, that when the latter was in Garrison, at Kaskaskia, some Indians came into camp who spoke a Welsh dialect and that two Welshmen in his company conversed with them. In 1732, when John Sevier, a Governor of Tennessee, was on a campaign against the Cherokees, he observed traces of ancient fortifications, and, inquiring of Oconostoto, who had been for sixty years a Cherokee chief, as to their origin, was told that they were constructed by white people, who had formerly inhabited the country, but had been driven to the Muddy river (Missouri), a great distance, by the Cherokees. "I have heard my grandfather and other old people say that they were a people called Welsh," were the chief's words.

In 1600 the Rev Morgan Jones, a Welshman, accompanied Major-General Bennet on an expedition to Port Royal, South Carolina. He was taken prisoner by Tuscarora Indians. Being condemned to die he bewailed his fate in his native language. He was understood by a sachem of the Dolg tribe, who successfully interceded for him.

Francis Lewis, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was captured by Montcalm during the French war at Oswego, and given over to the Indians with thirty other prisoners. One of the Indian chiefs was heard by Lewis, who was a Welshman, to converse in a dialect closely resembling the Welsh. Mr Lewis addressed the chief in Welsh and was understood by him, and through this chief's intervention his life was spared.

The extract from the Welsh history referred to, which seems to bear evidence of a Welsh discovery of America before Columbus's voyage, is as follows :—

"After the death of Owen, his sonnes fell at debate who should inherite after him, for the eldest son born in matrimoine, Edward or Iorwerth Drywyndyn, was counted unmeet to governe, because of the maime upon his face. And Howel who took upon him all the rule was a base sonne, begotten upon an Irish woman. Therefore Daniel gathered all the power he could, and came against Howel, and fighting with him slew him, and afterward enjoined quietlie the whole land of Northwales, until his brother Iorwerth's son came of age, as shall hereafter appeare. Madoc another of Gwyneth his sonnes left the land in contention betwixt his brethren and prepared certain ships with men and munition, and sought adventures by seas, sailing west, leaving the coast of Ireland so far north that he came to a land unknown, where he saw manie strange things. This land must needs be some part of that country of which the Spaniards affirme themselves to be the first finders sith Hannos time; for by reason and order of Cosmographie, this land to the which Madoc came must needs be some part of Noua Hispania, or Florida. Whereupon it is manifest, that that countrie was long before by Britaines discovered, afore either Columbus or Americus Vesputius lead aie Spaniards thither. Of the viage and returne of this Madoc there be manie fables fained, as the common people doo vse in distance of place and length of time rather to augment than to diminish; but sure it is that there he was. After he had returned home and declared the pleasant and fruitfull countries that he had seene without inhabitants; and upon the contrarie part, for what barren and wild ground his brethren and nephues did murder one another; he prepared a

number of ships, and got with him such men and women as were desirous to live in quietness, and taking leave of his friends took his journey thitherward again. Therefore it is to be presupposed that he and his people inhabited part of those countries, for it appeareth by Francis Loues that in Acusanus and other places the people honored the crosse; whereby it may be gathered that Christians had bene there before the coming of the Spaniards. But because this people were not manie they followed the maners of the land they came vnto, and vsed the language they found there." The historian states that Madoc first arrived "in the westerne countrie" in 1170. He believes it to have been part of Mexico because of the "Britysh words and names of places used in that countrie euen to this day; as when they talk together they use this word Gwrande, which is, hearken or listen. But the Island of Corroeso, the Cape of Bryght, the river of Gwyndor and the white rocks of Pengwyn, which be all Britysh or Welsh words, doe manifestlie shew that it was that countrie which Madoc and his people inhabited."

Those portions of the quotations which are mere argument are interlineation by the English translator of the book in the sixteenth century.

While it seems tolerably certain that Norsemen landed on this continent long before Columbus, and that possibly the Welsh reached here in 1170, the glory of the discovery will never cease to be given to Columbus, for from his discovery came the first practical results.

AUGUST 31, 1887.

NOTES.

NEWTOWN: AN EARLY BAILIFF.—I was looking at a Roll of Ministers' Accounts relating to the honour of Montgomery and its members a day or two ago, when I came across the name of the earliest Bailiff of Newtown that I have yet seen, namely, one *Walter ap Llewelyn*. The names of two other Municipal officers are also recorded,

Llewelyn ap Madoc and } Catchpolls.
Richard Smyth

The period is 38-39 Edw. III., 1364-1365. The Roll consists of, as far as I remember, 8 membranes, some of them three feet in length, others shorter, written closely on both sides, and contains a great deal of information of great interest to Montgomery and Newtown men. It is the Account of the Receiver for the King of the Income arising from Rents of Assize, amerciaments, and various other sources. Among the classes of Income I noticed "*Lerewite*." There is also a detailed account of the expenditure; among the items, repairs and outlay on the Castle of Montgomery. A great number of persons' names occur in the Roll. There is also a list of amerciaments or fines imposed at *Novavilla* (Newtown), which establishes the fact that at this early date there was a Court there which dealt with offences. I spent but a few minutes examining the document, which in many parts is faded, and in others stained with large drab patches, probably from damp. The document will some day doubtless be printed in *Mont: Coll*: It is written in Latin, and the words are very much abbreviated, as is usual.

PEARMAN.

SHROPSHIRE BOOKS.—AN OLD SHROPSHIRE OAK.—*Bye-Gones*, I think, should contain as complete a record as possible of Shropshire Literature. It may be worth while, therefore, to give a short description of "An Old Shropshire Oak," by the late J. Wood Warter (son-in-law of Southey), edited by Richard Garnett, although the book was published some time back.

From internal evidence (says the *Academy*) the book

seems to have been written about 1862. The district on which the author dwells most fondly lies in that great valley between the Stiper Stones and the Long Mynd, centering, perhaps, in Hanwood and running to Shrewsbury. Of Dr. Butler and the famous school he retains many fond recollections. The plan of the book is of the slightest. A time-honoured oak, which evidently has an existence in actual life on the banks of the Rea, is supposed to discourse to the author of the past. Mr Warter has nothing to say of prehistoric man. His studies begin with the old Britons and their relations with the Romans, the Saxon invaders, and the Danes. Etymologies, coinage, the physical aspect of the country, the extinct birds and beasts, the primitive miners, the churches and villages on the course of the little river Rea, and the like, are pleasantly discussed. There is an excellent chapter on Uriconium, the buried Roman city, which established the fortunes of Shrewsbury in the same manner as on the decay of Kentchester, according to Leland, Hereford rose and flourished. With all the enthusiasm of a scholar for his old school, the author dwells upon Shrewsbury and its vicissitudes from the time when (as its old name, Pengwern, tells) it occupied the head of an alder grove by the Severn. Upon the habit of Saxon wassailers emptying their tumblers which, answering to their name, would not stand, the author remarks, "how old-fashioned people, even in my boyhood, turned their teacups topsy-turvy when they had done." A good chapter is devoted to Owen Glendower and his hostility to the dwellers over the Welsh borders. The peaceful end of his life, however, is omitted. He seems to have resided quietly at the houses of two of his daughters in Kentchurch and Monnington, Herefordshire, who had married the lords of those manors, and to have died at the latter place. The extreme ignorance of Saxons and Danes, even after the introduction of Christianity, is well drawn out by Mr Warter; and a sympathetic chapter discourses on Wiclif and his life's work. The social condition of the fourteenth century is another noteworthy chapter. These historical studies terminate with the War of the White and Red Roses, and the reign of the first Tudor. A concluding portion of the author's work is promised.

W.O.

JOHN WILKINSON, IRONMASTER.—A correspondent of the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle*, of April 23rd last, writes thus of this great ironmaster, respecting whom correspondence appeared in the first three volumes of *Bye-Gones*:—"John Wilkinson was the first of the great ironmasters, of whom there are now so many. His father was a small farmer in Cumberland, who afterwards went to work at the iron furnace and forge at Blackbarrow in Cartmel, where he became foreman of the works. His two sons, John and William, were employed there. The first iron furnace and forge erected by John was at a place called Wilson House, in the same neighbourhood, for the purpose of smelting the hematite iron ore of Furness. The patent which he took out for the manufacture of box smoothing irons proved very successful, and he gradually extended his operations. The two brothers erected iron forges at Bersham, near Chester, at Bradley, Brymbo, Merthyr Tydvil, and other places, and became by far the largest iron manufacturers of their day. John was particularly celebrated for his castings and borings. Watt never could get cylinders cast true for his condensing steam engines until Wilkinson supplied them. He himself invented and introduced a new boring machine, since become common, which was a great improvement on that

formerly in use. The Wilkinsons cast the whole of the tubes, pipes, cylinders, and ironwork required for the great Paris waterworks—the most formidable undertaking of the kind at that day. The *first iron vessel ever built* was erected by them at Willey in South Wales, and traded upon the Severn before the year 1790. John Wilkinson retired later in life to his native county with a handsome fortune, and he built the mansion of Castlehead, in the parish of Cartmel, where he died. When the brothers gave up business, labourers were employed to break up the machinery at the Welsh works with sledge-hammers, in order that the material might be equally divided between them. Many thought this an exceedingly insane act; yet it was not entirely so. Both were extremely stubborn men, and knew each other's temper; and perhaps they concluded that, though sledge-hammers might be very destructive when wielded by labourers amongst their fine machinery, the corrosive though more tedious process of a Chancery suit, managed by skilful lawyers, might be still more damaging to the interests of both; so the machinery was all broken up. John had great faith in iron, and its application to nearly every purpose for which durable material was required. Having made his fortune by its manufacture, he determined that his body should lie encased by his favourite metal when he died. In his will he directed that he should be buried in his garden in an iron coffin, with an iron monument over him of twenty tons weight; and he was so buried within thirty yards of his mansion at Castlehead. He had the coffin made long before his death, and used to take pleasure in showing it to his visitors, very much to the horror of many of them. He would also offer a present of an iron coffin to any one who might desire to possess one. When he came to be placed in his narrow bed, it was found that the coffin he had provided was too small, so he was temporarily interred until another could be made. When placed in the ground a second time, the coffin was found to be too near the surface; accordingly it was taken up, and an excavation cut in the rock, after which it was buried a third time; and, on the Castlehead estates being sold in 1823, the family directed the coffin again to be taken up, and removed to the neighbouring chapel yard of Lindale, where it now lies."

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

QUERIES.

PERSONAL PROPERTY IN WALES. CUSTOM RELATING TO.—By 7-8 William III. c. 38 (1696-7) inhabitants of Wales may dispose by will of all their personal estate in such manner as they shall think proper, *notwithstanding any custom*. Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* say what was the custom in Wales, or any part of it, antecedent to this enactment? GAERFAWR.

REPLIES.

RALPH EDDOWES (Aug. 10, 1887).—I have to thank Mr PALMER for his additional note about the Kenricks, and conclude he has definitively settled the point at issue. In doing so, he has called attention to the honoured name of Ralph Eddowes, who fought a great constitutional question in our law courts, and so secured for himself a local fame in Cheshire, which has

helped to keep his memory green. It has always been contended that Mr Eddowes was in some way connected with the Henry family, and I have heard my great-grandfather speak of him in that relation when I was quite a mite of a child. I subsequently found that one Katherine Keay had married a gentleman named Eddowes. They had no children, and hence the records about them ended suddenly. I had better explain that Mrs Eddowes descended from the Henrys thus:—Theodosia Henry was the eighth child of the Rev. Matthew Henry, by Mary Warburton, his second wife. She married Randall Keay, of Whitchurch, and Katherine Keay was the fourth child of that marriage. I am unable to say whether the Ralph Eddowes of Chester was the gentleman who married her, but this note may possibly lead to enquiries which may be useful to Mr Palmer.

MENTMORE.

A HISTORY OF WALES (Aug. 10, 1887).—In reply to the query of A KELL, John Jones, LL.D. and barrister-at-law, was a Carmarthenshire man, his birth-place being Derwydd, in Llandybie parish. At an early age he showed that he had more than ordinary scholastic attainments, and soon became an under master at a London school of some repute. Afterwards he travelled on the Continent, and studied at the University of Jena, which gave him the degree of LL.D. On his return to England in 1803 he was called to the Bar, and joined the Oxford and South Wales Circuits. For a while his career was one of success and distinction, but there now occurred a circumstance which completely destroyed his prospects for the future. In pleading for a poor and ill-used client, he was tempted to make some very sarcastic and insolent remarks on the conduct of the administrators of the law. This so greatly offended the profession that they refused to associate with him, and from that time to the date of his death in 1837 he was doomed to be a briefless barrister. He died in distressed circumstances in London. He wrote and published several works, none of which, however, have made any lasting mark. His "History of Wales" is not a well-known work, and its worth was discounted by an unpardonable blemish, viz., the expression of views by the author which clearly showed that he held the Welsh nation in contempt. Dr. Jones's views on religion were also of a decidedly doubtful character—almost atheistic. E.P.

Brecknock.

[MYFANWY C.H. sends us much the same information, and adds the following list of Dr. Jones's publications:—1st, "Dr. Bug's Travels in the French Republic," from the Danish, 1801. 2nd, "De Libelles Famosis," or "The Law of Libel," 1812. 3rd, The "Cyfammold Newydd" (New Commandment), containing general translations from the Four Apostles, 1815. 4th, "The History of Wales," 1824. A MS. copy was found amongst his papers after his death. The "Cyfammold Newydd" is the only one published in his mother tongue. His work is considered of no value. The author is evidently unacquainted with the simplest rules of Welsh composition.—(Williams's "Eminent Welshmen.")—Ed.]

CURRENT NOTES.

At Cardiff, on Thursday, the Earl of Dumfries, the youthful heir of the Marquis of Bute, formally opened the new Roath Dock, which adds thirty-three acres to the dock area of the port, which is now about 122 acres. The new dock has cost £600,000, making the total expenditure upon

the Bute Docks at Cardiff £3,500,000. Subsequently, the Marchioness of Bute cut the first sod of the New Roath Park, of about 100 acres, which the Marquis of Bute has given to Cardiff. The proceedings included luncheon, given by his lordship, and a ball, given by the Mayor, Sir Morgan Morgan.

The Transactions of the Aberdare Eisteddfod, recently published by the National Eisteddfod Association, contain a most interesting collection of Glamorganshire Folk Lore. Amongst other items I find a large number of *Tribanau*, "which the rural bards of the past prepared for the use of the plough-boy and the driver of the plough-oxen," and which the author, Mr T.C. Evans (Cadrawd), Llangynydd, has gleaned during many years' sojourn amongst the older peasants of Glamorgan. The volume, which, by the way, has for its motto the old Welsh *dihareb*, "*Côf a lithra, llythyr a geidw*," and is dedicated to "*Gorsedd Beirdd Ynys Prydain*," also contains the excellent presidential address delivered by Mr J. C. Parkinson, D.L., on "*The Celtic Race and Literature*."

THE CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

DENBIGH, MONDAY EVENING, August 22.

The Cambrian Archaeological Association began their forty-second annual meeting here this evening. The Vale of Clwyd, of which Denbigh is the principal town, is, as all who know it are aware, rich in archaeological interest, and the Committee have provided a programme of the fullest interest and profit, if all the places marked on it can be visited and duly studied. The visit has been anticipated by a Local Committee, who have worked most admirably in making arrangements for the visit of the Association. Amongst other preparations which they have made is the collection of a large number of objects which, taken together, form a most interesting museum in the County Hall, which is placed at the disposal of the Committee by the Town Council, and the completeness of its interest is the best testimony to the manner in which the Local Committee has prosecuted its voluntary duties. The Local Committee consists of Col. Mesham, Pontrefydd, Bodfari, chairman, Col. Humberston, Glanywnn, Mr A. E. Turnour, M.D., Grove House, Mr T. Gold Edwards, Gwynfryn, Mr P. P. Pennant, Nantllys, Mr Meilir Owen, Mysevin, Major Conran, Brondyffryn, Mr John Davies, Brynyparc, Mr J. Parry Jones, Mr J. Lloyd Roberts, and Mr R. Moreton Prichard, M.D., with Major R. Lloyd Williams as the indefatigable secretary, and Major Casson as treasurer. The general secretaries of the Association are the Rev. R. Trevor Owen, M.A., F.S.A., Llangedwyn, Oswestry, and Mr E. Laws of Tenby.

The session of the Association began with a meeting of members, which was held in the Assembly Rooms in the evening, when a considerable number of the ladies and gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood assembled to welcome the Association. At the outset the chair was taken by the Ven. Archdeacon Thomas, in the absence of the retiring president, Mr Talbot Llewellyn, and on the platform were Mr C. Salusbury Mainwaring of Galfafenan, the president-elect, the Rev. R. Trevor Owen, one of the general secretaries, Colonel Mesham, Major Lloyd Williams, Mr R. H. Wood, Mr Lloyd Griffith, and Mr Banks. Archdeacon Thomas in a few words gave expression to the great services rendered to the Association by its retiring president, and called upon Mr Salusbury Mainwaring to take the chair, which he did, amidst applause.

Col. MESHAM, as chairman of the Local Committee, then welcomed the Association to Denbigh, and said he

thought there were but few parts in England or Wales more full of antiquities than was the Vale of Clwyd. He could only hope that at the close of their visit the members of the Association would have enjoyed their stay, and that both they and the inhabitants of the neighbourhood would be benefitted by the researches which would be made, and by the papers which would be read there. He had to associate with that welcome the name of his friend Colonel Mainwaring. Col. Mainwaring's family for generations had been intimately connected with that locality, and he himself had always taken a vast interest in everything that appertained to it, and on those grounds he felt sure that no better president could be found. (Cheers.)

Col. MAINWARING, in returning thanks, said he really felt more a part and parcel of those who were giving a welcome to the Association than of those who were welcomed. His next duty was to thank the members of the Association for the distinguished honour they had done him in allowing him to preside over the forty-second meeting of the Association, and when he saw amongst his predecessors the names of Sir Stephen Glynne, the first president, and Mr Wynne of Peniarth, he felt truly unworthy of the position. At first profane critics said two years would be sufficient to exhaust the antiquities of Wales, and Mr Longueville Jones, their untiring secretary, said they had enough work for ten years, but the Association had existed for forty-two years, and much yet remained to be done. No Welshman could truly value Wales unless he knew the past of Wales as well as the present. Whilst promising to do all he could to make the meeting pleasant and useful, he could not but remark that it seemed strange that Denbigh, which Denbigh people regarded as the capital of Wales, should not have been visited before. (Laughter.) The explanation, he believed, was that the visit was kept in reserve until the jubilee of her gracious Majesty afforded a fitting opportunity for that visit to the capital. (Laughter.) In 1854 the Association met at Ruthin, when Denbigh and St. Asaph were hurriedly visited, in 1874 it visited Wrexham, and in 1882 Llanrwst, and as no meeting had been held in Flintshire since 1858, a large and interesting country from Deva to Varis, which must contain the main Roman road, presented itself for their study, and he hoped their meeting and their visit to Bodfari would help forward their knowledge as to the line of the road and the position of Varis. It was to be regretted that Caerwys was not included in their programme, for its position, its shape, and its name all pointed to Roman occupation. Caer (Chester), Caergwrie, Caerwys, Caerynarfon, Caergai, Caersws, pointed to the centres from which Roman roads started. Assuming the road from Chester to Holyhead, given by Ogilby in his road map of 1720, to be the old Roman road from Deva to Conovium, the road passed Moelygaer near Halkin, went through Caerwys, past the Moelygaer by Bodfari, through Denbigh, where the site of the Castle was almost certainly a Roman out-post, Henllan, Llanfynydd, where was another Moelygaer, the most beautifully formed camp in the district, which lay close to the road as a place of protection, then by Pont y Gwyddel, over the Mynydd Bodrochwyn to Bettws, and Caerhun. From Caerhun the Roman road had been plainly traced to Carnarvon, and a milestone had recently been discovered near Aber. In the early numbers of the journal he found some excellent resolves to search out the hidden mysteries of the Hiraethog, but the road from Varis to Ystrad, Hen Ddinbych, Caer Ddynod, the Llwybr Elen, to the great camp above Caer—o Cerrig—ydrudion, where some said the last stand was made by Caradoc, then by the Gwern Nannau to the pass by Milltir Gerig to Tomen y Mur, had not as yet been fully worked out. Tradition

in the Hiraethog indeed still spoke of the Llwybr Elen, the road of the Empress Helen, mother of Constantine, as passing over the Carnedd y Filiast, where her favourite greyhound died, and where a great carnedd in its memory still existed, then by Moel yr Eglwys, where she founded a church, and thence to Cerrigydrudion. He should much like to assist in tracing out those and other roads in the district of Cerrigydrudion and the Hiraethog. But other than the Roman periods would occupy their attention. He would not venture to speak of the bones found at Tremeirchion, of the Gop by Newmarket, the scene of Boadicea's last battle, and perhaps of her grave, of the graves of the Platynemic men, nor of the treasures of Cefn. Referring to Denbigh, the President said he thought good old Speed must have been so pleased with the beauty of Denbigh—for he had left a very accurate plan of the town—that he probably stopped here, and must have taken much of the geography of the Hiraethog from hearsay, for he drew some impossible rivers and marked a large mountain as being between Abergele and the sea, which he believed was not known to the present inhabitants of Penarn. (Laughter.) Speed's map of Denbigh, with the various authentic accounts which remained, enabled them to picture its castle "Impregnable in its Fortifications," the castle where brave old William Salusbury kept the Royal Standard flying, till on the 14th of September, 1646, he received an order from his king to quit and surrender it on honourable conditions. The castle then was probably in a more perfect state of defence than ever, though the survey of 1562 showed that it was "much in decay." Salusbury, appointed governor in 1643, must have resumed the repairs of the castle begun by Leicester, 1562-88, for General Mytton could only take the castle by the slow process of starving out the garrison. They must therefore try to picture to themselves the castle as it stood when the garrison marched out with drums beating and colours flying, and as it probably stood until its destruction in the time of Charles II. It was the action of the Association which in a large degree led to the formation of a Committee which had with loving care strengthened the dangerous walls of the castle and disclosed much that was beautiful and of interest. The Committee intended to make further improvements, and he hoped that by the removal of a few trees the beautiful Goblin Tower might become more visible, and that the noble Burgess Tower might become a museum for the town and district. The President, before concluding, briefly glanced at each of the places to be visited.

The HON. SECRETARY (the Rev. R. Trevor Owen) then read the annual report, in which it was stated that the Association had been guided in its selection of Denbigh, not only by the special attractions of the town and neighbourhood, but also by the expectation of deriving no little profit and pleasure from the researches of those of its members who had already thrown so much light upon its history and antiquities. Foremost among these was the Rev. John Williams (Glanmor), who had written so well the ancient and modern history of the town and surrounding country, and had edited the "Records of the Lordship"; next, Major Lloyd Williams and his co-worker, Martin Underwood, who had pictured to the eye so much of the peculiarities and the historical development of the churches and abbeys of the county, and of the castle of Denbigh, and in whose "Illustrations of the village churches of Denbighshire," they could always find both pleasure and instruction. Treading closely on their heels came the Rev. Elias Owen, whose "Old Stone Crosses of the Vale of Clwyd" showed how much interest gathered round the most simple relics that lay at their doors, and only waited for a recorder. To these they de-

sired to add the large contributions made to their knowledge of the places and families, not only of that neighbourhood, but of the wide area of ancient Powysland, by the Chevalier Lloyd in his "History of Powys Fadog," of which the sixth and last volume had recently been published. The report then adverted to the visit of the Association to Ruthin in 1854, and to the great services rendered to it by the late Rev. E. L. Barnwell, who for twenty-one years, from 1854, acted as secretary. In the past year another contributor to their journal had been removed by the death of Mr Robert Oliver Jones, and amongst their patrons they had to lament the death of Lord Bagot and of Lord Clermont. They had the satisfaction of submitting the following names for election as members:—North Wales: Lord Mostyn, Lord Penrhyn, the Dowager Lady Williams Wynn, Mrs Kerr, Glanwilliam, Maentwrog, Mr Evan Morris of Wrexham, and Col. Mesham. South Wales: Mr R. W. Llewelyn, Bridgend, Mr J. A. Corbett, Cardiff, and the Rev. T. R. J. Laugharn, vicar of Rhayader. France: General Meredith Reed, 128, Rue de la Boétie, Paris. The Committee proposed to add to the list of vice-presidents the names of Mr J. D. Talbot Llewelyn, M.A., F.L.S., Mr J. Y. W. Lloyd, M.A., K.S.G., author of the History of Powys Fadog. The retiring members of the Committee were the Rev. Hugh Prichard, M.A., Mr W. Trevor Parkins, M.A., and Mr Ernest Hartland, M.A.; it was proposed to re-elect them, with the addition of the names of Mr Richard Williams, F.R.H.S., and Mr Alfred Neobard Palmer. In addition to works already mentioned, the Committee had much satisfaction in stating that Mr A. N. Palmer's History of the Parish Church of Wrexham had in the last few days been issued to subscribers; Mr A. Baker's well-illustrated monograph was ready for the press; Mr R. Williams's new edition of Yorke's Royal Tribes of Wales was daily expected to appear; Mr Law's History of Pembrokeshire was making good progress; and two of their members had nearly completed their respective Histories of St. Asaph and St. David for the Diocesan Series published by the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge. At the last meeting a small grant was made by the Association to help Mr Stephen W. Williams of Rhayader to trace out the ground plan of the abbey church of Strata Florida, and the results of his well-directed explorations had been so encouraging that it was proposed that the Association should undertake the entire clearing out of the area of that the greatest abbey in Wales, a proposal which it was hoped would receive encouragement.

On the motion of Mr BANKS, seconded by Mr R. H. WOOD, the report was adopted.

Major LLOYD WILLIAMS next read an interesting paper descriptive of the plan and architectural remains of Denbigh Castle. The plan was essentially that of a Norman fortress extended and strengthened. The existence of a fortress of twelfth century date could only be suggested by analogy with other buildings of that period. The earlier structure might safely be concluded to have been of palisading and deep earthworks, and looking at the ruins as they now stood they found themselves in the presence of work of one period. The castle was essentially English in its design. The castles of Conway, Beaumaris, Carnarvon, Harlech, &c., were essentially Edwardian in type very different in arrangement, but sufficiently near in date of erection to Denbigh Castle to enable a reference to be made to them for the purpose of comparison. Mr Lloyd Williams then pointed out the resemblance between Denbigh Castle and the typical English castle of Tonbridge; the only feature at Tonbridge which was not found at Denbigh was a circular keep on a lofty mound

the work of an early period. At Denbigh the details of the work indicated many points of resemblance with Edwardian castles. The towers agreed in shape and plan, and the arrangements in each tower of living rooms were alike, and the peculiar design of a circular tower springing from a square base with high pointed stops are similar in both. Of this arrangement the Burgess Gate afforded perhaps the most pronounced example in the Principality. At Denbigh the great excellence of the masonry, the cutting and working of the stones, and all the details of execution and laying, called for much admiration. From the plan of the castle they would look for a detached chapel in the baillium, and such a building was to be traced on Speed's map; there would probably be another on the first floor of one of the towers, but the place named as the chapel was probably a domestic hall. The chapel of St. Hilary in the castle was for the use of the town's folk, and from its dedication he inferred that it was far anterior to the castle. The architect of the castle he had no doubt was the architect of the town walls, the principal features in which were the Goblin Tower and the Burgess Gateway. The former was one of the most remarkable works of the kind in the country, and the plan by which the spring outside the town walls was included was also remarkable. In the Burgess Gateway, the large upper chamber had doubtless served as the meeting place of the burgesses, as the other authority, the Lords of the Castle, had its seat in the Exchequer Tower. The Burgess Tower was provided with a prison, which was mentioned in Henry de Lacy's charter. His information was mainly derived from a treatise by Mr E. P. Loftus Brock, F.S.A., and he was glad that Mr Brock agreed with him in thinking that the ruin on the south-east, frequently called "The Chapel," was much more probably used as the banqueting hall. It was difficult to assign their exact use to the different towers; but it was probable that in times of peace they would be utilized as the Governor thought fit, while in times of war each tower would be seized and defended by the various tenants of the lord holding their lands from him on the old tenure, either by knightly service or castle guard. The rooms in the different towers of Denbigh Castle were somewhat more luxurious than in other Welsh castles, as every room had its fire place and every tower its separate entrance.

The Ven. Archdeacon THOMAS said the question was often asked, What had become of the earlier fortifications? Those fortresses consisted of dykes and palisades, and, the simplest way to destroy them being to set fire to them, it was obvious there could be no remains. He happened to live within two miles of what should be the remains of the old castle of Mathrafal, but there were no remains except earthworks. The superstructure, which was of timber, they happened to know for certain was burnt in the reign of King John. The Archdeacon then read an interesting paper on the Carmelite Priory of Denbigh. Having traced the origin of the Order of Carmelites or White Friars in Palestine, he attributed the special foundation at Denbigh to the fact that the founder's father, and most probably the founder himself, witnessed the devotion and charity of the new brotherhood whilst they were engaged in the Crusades at St. Jean d'Acre. The Order also was introduced into England by Earl Richard de Grey, to whose nephew, Reginald de Grey, Edward I. granted the Castle of Ruthin and the Lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd in 1281, and within three years the Priory of Denbigh was founded. In those circumstances they seemed to trace a special reason why in days of Cistercian foundations that house should have been founded as a Carmelite Priory. At just the same time

that Henry de Lacy was crowning the fair hill of Caledfryn in Rhos with his beautiful Castle, Sir John Salusbury was occupied in founding the house of Carmelite Friars at its foot. The present remains were the chapel, and on the south side what was probably the hall or day room with dormitories above; the graceful ogee window of five lights cinquefoiled, and with perforated mullions in the north wall of the chapel; the holy water stoup of similar character in the south wall near the west door, all belonged to this period of architecture. And so, too, he doubted not, did the double sedilia with detached or open mullions in the south wall. Sir John himself was probably the first to be buried in the chapel, and the copy of a brass plate bearing his name was preserved amongst some MSS. at Combermere. The Archdeacon gave the inscriptions commemorative of many descendants of the founder down to the last interment in the chapel in 1505 and 1516 of Sir Thomas Salusbury and his wife Joan or Janer, and specified many of the bequests to the Priory. In 36 Henry VIII. the Priory was granted to Richard Andrews and William Lisle, and from that grant they learnt that the Priory and its property had in 1537 been leased to the Bishop of St. Asaph for ninety-nine years. The Archdeacon quoted largely from the inventory of the property of the Priory, made in 30 Henry VIII. (1538), and incidentally he started a question as to what might be "a paire of hengells," which were in the kitchen. A "chalis," weighing ten ounces and valued at 36s. 8d., was left in the hands of the Bishop of St. Asaph, Robert Parfew, or Perfew, also called Warbington, or Warton, consecrated bishop on July 2, 1536, and who also held the Abbacy of St. Saviour's Bermondsey. He was very rich, and much of his time and money was spent in Denbigh, the freedom of which borough was conferred upon him. This Bishop made great efforts to have the Grammar School which the Commissioners proposed to found at St. Asaph placed at Denbigh, and it was said that he was anxious to have the Cathedral transferred to Denbigh, as other bishops were anxious for its transference to Wrexham. The Archdeacon concluded by describing the present condition of the buildings, and suggested that their North Wales Secretary might help them to trace the devolution of the property into his own and his brother's hands.

The gathering shortly afterwards adjourned.

TUESDAY, August 23.

The business or the pleasure of the members began to-day, when the morning was spent in the examination of the absorbingly interesting remains to be found in the town itself. The weather all day was most delightful. Meeting about half-past nine, the pioneers, who were the President, Archdeacon Thomas, Major Lloyd Williams, and Mr Trevor Owen, led the members in the direction of the Castle, making a slight pause for a general examination of the south side of the Castle externally. On the way up, the chancel of the Church of St. Hilary was visited. It is divided into two floors, and the lower one, or crypt, was, within the past twenty years, used for the purpose of a Grammar School. The examination of the nave and the chancel proper was taken on the return journey. The church generally is not now used, but the chancel is fitted up as a mission chapel. The church consists of a nave and north aisle, separated from each other by five arches. Major Lloyd Williams called attention to the woodwork of the roof, which was the most beautiful feature of the building. Archdeacon Thomas said he thought it would be seen that the stone work was of the same character from the west doorway to the priest's door of the chancel; the arches were similar to those in St. Asaph Cathedral, and the church

was built between 1290 and 1300. That was the only instance of a church in North Wales which he knew to be provided with squints or hagioscopes on each side of the chancel arch. He reminded the members that the church was formerly provided with a rich altar cloth, which he believed was an old cope. Major Lloyd Williams said it had been lost sight of, but every effort had been made and would be continued for its recovery.

At the entrance to the Castle the visitors were welcomed by Dr. Turnour, in the unavoidable absence of the chairman of the local committee, and the President, in acknowledging the welcome, referred to the loving care with which the Castle was preserved by the local committee. The Castle was erected in the time of Edward I. by Henry Lacy, Earl of Leicester, to whom it was given by the King. The entrance consists of a large gothic arch, formerly flanked by two octagonal towers, now considerably ruined. Over the archway were three figures, but the weathered remains of one of them is all that is now to be seen. In 1645 the Castle was visited by Charles I., the next year it was besieged by and surrendered to General Mytton, and it was blown up in the time of Charles II. The visitors spent some time in the Castle, tracing out the towers and gates by the light of an inventory made in 1562 and quoted in Williams's "Ancient and Modern Denbigh," and of Speed's map, which was made early in the next century. The party next visited the Bowling Green, and then went to the magnificent ruin of Leicester's church, situated in the grounds of the Castle House. This church, which was begun in 1579 by Dudley, Earl of Leicester, was 170 by 71 feet. Major Lloyd Williams explained that he understood the building was never completed, though Speed's map represented a roof on it. Archdeacon Thomas explained that the money for the building was got by taxing that part of the country, but much of the proceeds of the taxation were used for the purposes of the Irish war. The Rev. C. H. Drinkwater said the money was borrowed from Leicester by the Earl of Essex, and never re-paid. Mr S. W. Williams said he was inclined to think the church was never intended to be purely Gothic, but that Leicester, who had travelled considerably, intended to some extent to adopt the Florentine style, which was then being introduced into England. The party then went through the grounds attached to the house, the interest of which is to some extent increased by the air of neglect which generally prevails. In one of the walks a spot in the wall was pointed out as one from which it was said a coffin containing a body was extracted within living memory. The main object in these private grounds, however, was the famous Goblin Tower, which, when complete, must have been of vast height. One side of it is formed of the solid rock, and from the present floor of the Tower a dry well extends to a great depth, and one object of the tower was no doubt the protection of the important element of water. On the way to the Burgess Tower, the outer walls were traced, and at this Tower Mr S. W. Williams pointed out the strong defence with which it was provided, by means, first, of four beams let down, then a portcullis, then a door, and probably a stronger portcullis on the inner side. A descriptive extract from Williams's History was also read by the Rev. C. H. Drinkwater. The remainder of the time before lunch was spent in a careful examination of the museum.

After lunch carriages were requisitioned, and the first stoppage was at the Abbey, where the chapel, now divided into two malting floors, was much admired, especially the wood work of the roof, the fine east window, and the two five-light ogee windows on each side. Here

Mr Trevor Owen read an extract bearing on the history of the place from the History of Powys Fadog, and he added that the earliest information he had with regard to it was that it was granted in Queen Elizabeth's time to Sir L. Cotton of Combermere, the grant having come into his possession through the purchase of it by his (Mr Owen's) great-great grandfather from one of the Cottons, who lived at Llewenny. Permission being given by Mr Owen, a pickaxe was obtained, and the plaster on the right of the east window was pierced. This had the effect of disclosing the piscina, and a similar experiment being made at the instigation of Archdeacon Thomas at the west end, the holy water stoup, which was similarly plastered up, was found. Running parallel with the chapel a short length of buildings was pointed out as the domestic buildings, with dormitories lighted by small windows above. The only tombstone remaining, which represents the recumbent figure of a female, was pointed out. The next stopping place was the old parish church of Denbigh, at Whitechurch, which is now only used as a mortuary chapel, and for Welsh services on Sunday afternoon. The lychgate is remarkable for its severe, not to say rude, simplicity, and a description of the church, by the Rev. W. A. Leighton, was read by Mr. Trevor Owen. The carefully restored church of Llandyrnog was the extremity of the day's excursion. Here the rector, the Rev. D. Williams, conducted the party over the church, pointing particularly to the east window, the fragmentary stained glass of which the restorer, Mr. Kemp, he said, described as among the oldest and best in England. The upper portion of the window was complete and in its original condition, but the glass of the lower portion was broken into thousands of bits many of which had been carefully sought and replaced in position through the generosity of Colonel Humberston. There was, however, still a large quantity of the glass missing. Referring to the registers, the Rector drew attention to the first page—seventeenth century—on which it was recorded that three persons were buried in wool and without coffins. In the same register they would find the name of Mrs Powell, who was married at the age of forty-four, and had seventeen children in the next twenty-three years, she being sixty-seven at the time of the birth of the last one. Several interesting inscriptions were pointed out, and the rector said the timber of the roof was the original timber, and the curious style of the south porch was a reproduction of the old porch. The church consists of a nave and an aisle of equal proportions. In returning, the excursionists called at Glanywern, where they were hospitably entertained by Colonel Humberston, to whom, in a few appropriate words, Archdeacon Thomas conveyed the cordial thanks of the visitors.

WEDNESDAY.

Yesterday's proceedings closed with a meeting held in the Assembly Rooms. Colonel Mainwaring presided, and Archdeacon Thomas gave an interesting review of the day's work. In the course of the subsequent discussion, regret was generally expressed at the dilapidated condition of St. Hilary's Church. The Rev. C. H. Drinkwater read notes of his investigations of the British remains found on the hills west of Llanuwchllyn, and Mr S. W. Williams read a paper on the investigations which, with the help of the Association, he is making on the site of the Abbey church of Strata Florida. Before the meeting closed the Committee was authorized to raise a special fund for the purpose of assisting in the excavations at Strata Florida.

This morning the members drove to Bodfari, calling on the way at Pontruffydd, the residence of Colonel Mesham, the admirable chairman of the local committee. From the fact that the Roman road from Caerwys runs through the grounds, it is conjectured that Pontruffydd occupies what was the site of a Roman villa. The visit was full of interest, inasmuch as the house contains much excellent carving as well as pictures of much archaeological interest. A coat of arms of Queen Elizabeth's time, let in over the chimney piece, and some bits of beautiful earlier work, attracted attention. Another coat of arms which was found, puzzled the visitors considerably; the crest consisted of a mitre, in the left hand corner was the Virgin and Child, and there were eight quarterings. The Roman road was then examined, and the Maen-llwyd, which was broken into several pieces when the new road from Denbigh to Chester was made, was also examined. The stone gave a name to an adjoining field. At Bodfari, the mansion of Varis, the visitors were received by the rector, the Rev. Canon Browne. The church, which is dedicated to St. Stephen, contains a quantity of interesting carved wood work. The pulpit, which is Jacobean, and the altar table were much admired, and the registers and plate were examined. Considerable diversity of opinion prevailed as to the object of an opening on the east side of the parapet of the tower. It was generally thought to be connected with the sanctus bell. The south aisle of the church appears to have been known as the Aber-whieler aisle, and in the course of alterations in the walls a holy water stoup was discovered, and has been removed to the rectory grounds. Before leaving, a visit was paid to the rectory. The ascent of Moel-y-gaer was abandoned. Moel-y-gaer is the sixth of seven fortified posts, which, proceeding northwards, are Y Foel Fenni, Moel-y-gaer, Moel Fammau, Moel Arthur, Penycloddiau, Moel-y-gaer, and Moel Hiraddug. On the way to Tremaeirchion a stoppage was made at Ffynnon Beuno. Beuno, uncle of Winifred, was one of the early missionaries of Wales, and the well consists of a spring rising in a bath, the water of which is said to have healing virtues. The water escapes into the road through the mouth of a carved head. Proceeding up the dingle, Beuno's cave was reached, and Mr Pennant gave a description of it. Above it Caegwyn cave was reached, and here Mr Luxmoore of Bryn Asaph read an interesting paper on the subject of the caves, and the interest was enhanced by an inspection of the bones and other objects taken from the cave, very kindly shown by Mrs Morgan of Caegwyn. In the church at Tremaeirchion much attention was paid to the beautiful effigy of Davydd Ddu Hiraddug, who was vicar of the parish about the middle of the fourteenth century, and who translated the Te Deum and the Office of the Blessed Virgin into Welsh. Some discussion arose with regard to the effigy of a cross-legged knight which is in the church, the conclusion being that the effigy was that of Sir Robert Pounderling, once governor of Dyserth Castle, whose name was preserved in the nomenclature of a neighbouring field. The visitors were hospitably received at the Roman Catholic College of St. Beuno, and were conducted over the library, the chapel, the sacristy, and the garden, by the Fathers. Amongst the objects inspected was the head of a churchyard cross, which, until about twenty years ago, was in the churchyard of Tremaeirchion. A very rough road led to Dyserth. The principal object of attention was the beautiful east window dated 1450, with glass of about the middle of the fifteenth century; it is a Jesse window, and it represents the genealogy of our Lord from the kings of Judah. Some interesting crosses with interlaced ornamentation stood in the churchyard, the finest of which

is said to be the cross of Einion, son of Rhiryd Flaidd, slain in the siege of Dyserth Castle, the cross in his memory being first erected at Bryn Einion. In the south-west corner of the church there are some interesting slabs bearing floriated crosses, and the porch bears date "1603. A. Reg. 45." The party walked across the park to Bodrhyddan where they were hospitably received by Capt. and Mrs Conwy, and allowed to inspect a very curious pedigree. Bodrhyddan contains an interesting collection of weapons, principally Welsh and English, and in the grounds a well of very cool water is covered by a building erected by Inigo Jones. The journey was resumed, and the next stoppage was at Rhuddlan Castle, the form and characteristics of which were duly studied, and some notes on its history were read by Archdeacon Thomas. Twthill, the site of an earlier wooden fortress probably erected by Llewelyn ap Sytysyllt was visited on the way to what is commonly called the Abbey, but which should be the Priory, farm, as it is partly the remains of the old Dominican Priory of Rhuddlan. In the walls of the farmhouse the half of an effigy of a knight was found built in, and near the doorway leading into a cowhouse was the effigy of an archbishop in full canonicals, bearing an inscription attesting that the original was brother of William, Arch-bishop of Rages. A monumental slab with a pretty cross within quatrefoils at the head, bore an inscription showing that it was the tombstone of William de Bridlington. Above the stones some simple openings in the walls led to the belief that the building was the ancient dormitory of the Priory, and some stables on the western side of the farm yard contained early pointed arches. It was getting late when the party reached Rhuddlan Church. On the outside of the west end wall was the half of an effigy, the other half being in a niche in the east gable of south aisle. The return journey to Denbigh was then made.

THURSDAY.

This morning faces were turned in the direction of Ruthin, and the first stoppage was at Llanrhaiaadr Church, the roof of which is exceedingly interesting, the portion above the chancel being particularly handsome. The east window of the north aisle was also very interesting, the window being a Jesse window, but in the design and the quality of the glass it falls short of the one at Dyserth. Mr Charles Winston's account of the window, which is dated 1533, was read. The next halting place was Bachymbyd, built by Mr Charles Salusbury. A stone over the door bears the arms of the family, and there is also

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an inscription C E 1666. The attics, which contain many rooms, but only one entrance, are wainscoted and the ceilings panelled. On the lawn are three chestnuts called the Three Sisters, one of which is twenty-four feet in circumference. At Ruthin the first place examined was the Mill, in the east gable of which is a beautiful cinquefoiled, narrow pointed window, suggesting ecclesiastical uses, difficult to reconcile with the fact of the mill being situated on a very good stream. By the side of the window mentioned, a cross of red sandstone is let into the wall. By the kindness of Mrs Pryce the party next examined the interesting and curious old house of Nantclwyd. The house seemed at one time to have been the town house of the Goodmans, The Castle, the residence of Colonel Cornwallis West, M.P., was the next stopping place, and here, though the host and hostess were unfortunately from home, they were entertained at luncheon, Colonel Mainwaring presiding. At the close of the luncheon the thanks of the visitors were telegraphed to their host, who was in London. The Rev. R. Trevor Owen read an account of

the Castle, and in the course of an examination of the muniments and charters of the Castle one was discovered which was read by Mr Banks; it was a grant of a piece of land to the Church and Priory of St. Peter, on Gallows hill or Gallow hill. The expression was held to clear up another difficulty; from the name Priory-street it is assumed that there must have been a priory of some order of monastics in the town, but the expression in the grant of the date of about 1310 leaves no doubt that the name meant that the street adjoined the collegiate establishment. The dungeons were visited. At the church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, the visitors were received by the Rev. the Warden, and, before the examination of the church, the Warden conducted them over his own house, which is constructed of part of the ancient cloisters, and here the groined roof excited much admiration. The roof of the church also contains some very beautiful work, but the church as it stands is only a portion of what it was until the beginning of last century. At one time the church was cruciform, but the eastern end and the north transept have been destroyed. At Llanrhudd Church, the next stoppage, the altar table was of considerable interest, and amongst the monuments is one of John Thelwall, his wife, and fourteen children. In early times the family was one of importance in that part of the country, and they took part in the feuds which broke out between the English and the tribe of Gruffyth Goch, between 1300 and 1500. The churchyard contains the shaft of a cross. The proposed visit to Llanfair was abandoned, and it was growing dark when the party reached Llanynys, a church of two parallel aisles. The inner arcade gave rise to some speculation, but Mr S. W. Williams pointed out that when the old stone pillars were removed, their places were taken by some fluted columns of wood, painted in imitation of marble, the bases being formed of the old capitals. An effigy of a bishop was found much mutilated; the figure seemed to be connected with a house close by, known as Llys yr Escob. In the south-west corner of the churchyard the head of a cross was found, bearing on one side a crucifix, and on the other side a bishop in full canonicals. The churchyard still contains some fine yew trees, and appears at one time to have been surrounded by them. The carving within the altar rails is very fine, and the altar table bears the date 1637. An inscription at the back of the pulpit records that John Richards was vicar in 1613. The party then returned to Denbigh, and in the evening a meeting of members was held.

FRIDAY.

On this, the last day of the session, the excursion was up the Vale of Clwyd, the first stoppage being at the new church of Trefnant, erected in memory of the late Col. Salusbury, of Galftraenau. The church is built from designs by Sir Gilbert Scott, the pillars of the arcades being of polished limestone. Llanerch Park, the seat of Sir George Cayley, was next visited. The library contains an admirably preserved MS. copy of Wickliffe's Bible dated 1350; it also contains a curious pedigree, and amongst the pictures are portraits of Sir Peter Mutton (1631), and of Ellen Mutton (1645). In the billiard room there is an old oil painting described as a "Prospect of Llanerch taken on the east side, 1662," the same date as that of a stone on the south side of the house. The next halt was made at St. Asaph cathedral, where the visitors were received by the Rev. T. Lloyd and the Rev. T. Ll. Williams. On the right of the west door Archdeacon Thomas drew attention to the tomb of Bishop Barrow, who died in 1680. The tomb once bore a brass plate, but about the beginning of the present century it was removed and taken to London to be used as evidence that prayers for the dead

were not inconsistent with the doctrine of the Church of England. On the left of the entrance is the tomb of Bishop Short. In 1815 the interior of the cathedral was plastered by Wyatt, but the plaster has now been removed. Archdeacon Thomas explained that previously to the restoration fifteen years ago there used to stand between the two arches of the western portion of the tower a heavy stone screen supporting the organ. The clerestory windows were also covered with plaster. In the course of the restoration the remains of old work were found, and the chancel windows adjoining the choir were reconstructed according to the plan of the mullions found in the walls. The east window was in memory of Bishop Carey; it succeeded a window supposed to be a representation of the east window of Tintern Abbey. The glass was by Ward and Hughes, and some of the tiles in the floor of the chancel were reproductions of the old ones. A narrow doorway on the north of the chancel formerly led to the Chapter House, but as the house was very damp it was considered cheaper to take it down than to repair it. The bishop's throne was a memorial of Bishop Beveridge, and the reredos was given by Mr Bamford Hesketh. Bishop Morgan, who was bishop from 1590 to 1604, was buried somewhere in the cathedral. He was the translator of the Bible into Welsh, and the earliest edition of it was dated 1588. They often heard of a Bishop Morgan's Bible, dated 1620, but that Bible was issued by his successor, Bishop Parry. The carving of the stalls was said to be the work of an imbecile, and on the left of the chancel arch a memorial slab of the late Archdeacon Ffoulkes has recently been inserted. In the north transept is an early sepulchral slab with a hunting scene, taken from between the throne and the pulpit. When found the skeletons were in good preservation, and were lowered three or four feet. There was a somewhat similar legend on the gallery of Penant Melangell Church, and he thought there was a similar slab on the floor of Valle Crucis Abbey. The shield on the slab bore a lion rampant between three fleur de lis, and in the lower part a dog was represented chasing a hare. In the south transept or Chapter House, a floriated cross was pointed out, which in its former position covered a priest's grave, in which was found the remains of a laten chalice and patten, which were exhibited. Close at hand is the effigy of a former bishop, but there was no information with regard to it further than that it was of the laten period, 1300-1350, and it was concluded that it represented either Bishop Anian, who was bishop at the beginning of the re-building, 1290-1300, or of Bishop Llewelyn ap Madoc, his successor. The library contains a copy of the Sealed Book of Common Prayer. Some time was spent in the examination of the cathedral, and the next place visited was the parish church, a building of two equal aisles. Archdeacon Thomas explained that the Church had two dedications, the south aisle being called Eglwys Asaph, and the north one Kentigern's. S. Kentigern came from Glasgow, and went to stay with his old friend S. David at Menevia. He was directed to go northwards, and followed one of the great Roman roads, which brought him to the upper portion of the vale, and the legend said he decided to fix upon that spot by a white boar, which appeared and led him there. He supposed the legend came from the Welsh word Aber, meaning the junction of two rivers. Having started a monastic foundation, Kentigern was re-called to Glasgow, but before going he appointed a native disciple, Asaph or Asa, as his successor. In the neighbourhood they had the names Llanasa and Ffynnon Asa. Mr Drinkwater asked if St. Mungo was the same as Kentigern. Archdeacon Thomas said Mungo was an appellation

of Kentigern, Mwyngu ("The Amiable.") The roof was very handsome, and in the chancel there was a very rude double piscina. Mr S. W. Williams said the present piers were late perpendicular, and had been built upon older bases, which were decorated. The bases were very much the same as those at Llanynys. Archdeacon Thomas said in searching the earliest registers they had to bear in mind that the baptisms, marriages, and deaths, were entered together. The vestry contains an old chest, about 7 x 2 feet. Mr Wood drew attention to the lack of care in the keeping of the Church. Those who followed them in other days, would, he felt sure, be grateful for the attention called to the matter, if it resulted in better care being taken of the place. Archdeacon Thomas said their object was to try to improve things as they went along. He drew attention to a form of certificate found in a register, under 30 Charles II., regarding the burial of bodies in wool, and mentioned that one of the earliest burials recorded in the register was that of Sion Tudyr. The next stoppage was at the interesting old manor house, now a farm stead, of Vaynol, the approach to which is through an avenue of elms. The house was built in 1597, and it contains much fine carving and panelling. At Bodelwyddan the visitors were hospitably received by the Rector and Mrs Williams. The beautiful church adjoining, built by Lady Willoughby de Broke, from designs by Mr John Gibson of Westminster, was much admired. Penisa'r Glascoed, a house of the same period as Vaynol, was next examined, the panelling and old timber of the kitchen particularly engaging attention. The panelling bears the inscription "Anno Domini 1570. Oedran y Byd, 5552. E.K." The rooms on the first floor are similarly panelled, and in the attics the gigantic beams are disclosed. On the south side a remarkable door, which is filled up, was noticed. The posts are formed of two massive stones, and the lintel is formed of another stone, the arch being three centred. The next stoppage was at Plasnewydd, a house of similar architectural design. The kitchen is lofty, and over the fire place is the inscription "Anno Domini 1583, etatis mei Fulcon ap Robert, 43 G. I." Archdeacon Thomas said the house was built by Foulk Roberts in 1583. One of the daughters of the house married Peter Roberts, the chronicler of St. Asaph, and those who had a copy of "Cwta Cyfarwydd" would know that she came from that house. It passed from father to son for a long time, until it came to the last male heir, whose monument was on the south wall of St. Asaph parish church. He claimed descent from Prince Cynan, who led a colony into Armorica, and if, in 1889, they went to Brittany, they might remember the connection with that house. On the first floor the rooms are moulded, and there are two, three, and four-light mullioned windows in the wall. The front door is secured by means of a strong oak bar, which runs into the wall. The next stoppage was at a chambered tomb in the centre of a field, Tyddyn Bleiddyn. The tomb is in the centre of a corn field, but, happily, it has not been ploughed over. Two of the chambers which run parallel have been opened, but it is evident there are other chambers running parallel which have not been opened. Archdeacon Thomas said before the year 1869 there used to be a number of trees and a mound composed of loose stones over the place, but many loads of stone were taken away as metal for the roads. When the trees were removed the ploughing of the ground was begun, but one Saturday morning he got notice from Mr Williams, Tanygraig, that he had found the bones of a skeleton. He hurried over, and found on the removal of some sand more stones and some bones. It was evident there was a

cist-faen there, and Mrs Williams Wynn at once gave orders that it was not to be touched. He went over again with Canon Williams, and on examination they found several skeletons which seemed to be laid in a sitting posture with their backs to the low wall of the chancel. The whole space was filled up with sand. The character of the skulls, and of some of the legs, especially of the tibia, was peculiar, and this circumstance suggested to Mr Boyd Dawkins a name for them, and he called them the platycnemic men of Denbighshire, the broad shinned men. Their visit to the spot would show the importance of preserving the place in its present condition. Some of the remains were now at Cefn, and some had been sent to museums. The Archdeacon then read Mr Boyd Dawkins's comments upon the discovery, in which he mentioned that the plan of the chamber agreed with that of the long barrow of West Kennet. Replying to Dr Williams of Wrexham, the Archdeacon said apparently there had been a slab over the tomb, but they did not find it. Mr Worthington Smith described a similar grave which he had opened in Bedfordshire. In it he found the crouching skeleton of a female. In her hand was a block of iron pyrites indicating that those who buried her thought if she came to life she might want a light. With her he found no less than a hundred fossil echinae used as charms. The party then drove to Cefn, where they were hospitably received by Mrs Williams Wynn and by Mr Robert Williams Wynn. Here they examined a large number of bones taken from Tyddyn Bleiddyn, including several skulls, which, though small, were well-formed. Replying to a vote of thanks conveyed to her by Archdeacon Thomas, Mrs Williams Wynn said she had with difficulty preserved the chamber tomb so far, and she was willing to put a fence around it. The visitors then went to the Cefn caves, which they examined with the assistance of Mr Robert Wynn, who illuminated the more inaccessible portions of the cave. The last stoppage was at Ffynnon Fair, the interesting remains of which are railed and preserved by Mr Howard of Wigfair. The bath into which the water comes bubbling still remains, and the ruins of the four walls of the chapel which covered it remain in an interesting ivy-clad condition. Here the Rev. D. Edwards of Cefn read a paper by Mr Longueville Jones on the subject. The early portion of the building seemed to date from the fifteenth century, and the rest was not greatly anterior to the religious revolution of the sixteenth century. The building was cruciform, but the arms had disappeared, so that the well appeared to be outside the building. The southern arm of the cross seems the earliest; the rest was late perpendicular. The length of the chapel was not more than sixty feet, and the width sixteen. Most likely the chapel was only intended for the use of those who resorted to it for baptism and for medicinal purposes. A little to the south-west of the chapel there was indication of a building which was probably the dwelling of the guardian of the well or of the priest of the chapel. Some registers of the sixteenth century were in the possession of Miss Angharad Lloyd. The well was about 7ft 8in square, with three of the sides joined into salient angles. At the points arose a shaft or pier supporting the arches and canopy in the manner of Holywell. Mr Howard mentioned that the moss around the well was the same as that at Holywell. Archdeacon Thomas made some remarks, in which he connected the place with information contained in the Cwta Cyfarwydd, and mentioned that the marriages there were clandestine. The return journey was then made to Denbigh.

In the evening a meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms. Colonel Mainwaring presided, and he was supported by Col. Mesham, the Ven. Archdeacon Thomas,

Mr R. H. Wood, Dr. J. Lloyd Roberts, the Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, the Rev. Elias Owen, Mr Banks, and the Rev. R. Trevor Owen.

The PRESIDENT, in opening the proceedings, apologized for having left the party at St. Asaph, the explanation being that he had business at Rhyl and he was anxious to get back and have one more look at the museum. He was sorry they had not had more time for the study of the museum. In reading the borough records he found that in 1675 the borough of Denbigh gave orders for the removal of the lead from the Burgesses' Tower. It was, he thought, worth while tracing out how the tower came under the Corporation, and again by what means they lost possession of it. The tower was a most interesting and splendid specimen of the architecture of its date and style, and as far as he could he should be happy to assist in the restoration of the tower. (Cheers.)

The Ven. Archdeacon THOMAS then reviewed the excursions made on Wednesday and Thursday. Referring to the arms which puzzled them at Pontruffydd, he said the Virgin and Child were the arms of the see of Salisbury, and he was not sure if they were not the arms of some other see. Amongst the carving was the seal of Christ's Hospital, Ruthin, which he took as proof that the carving in the house had generally been brought from other places. Speaking of Bodfari, he said it would be well if at all churches they laid out the registers and the plate as was done at Bodfari, and referring to the smashing of the rectory windows he said he was sorry it should have occurred, and he was particularly sorry that it should have occurred during the meeting of the Association. He knew of nothing in Montgomeryshire like the curious arched tomb-stones in Dysserth churchyard, he thought they were local and belonged to the period 1660-1700. Referring to the figures in the wall at Rhuddlan Priory, he said he hoped Sir W. Williams might see his way to remove them and place them for preservation where they could be handed down to posterity. Of the beautiful roof of Llanrhaeadr Church, many of them might find remembrances in the illustrations of Mr Lloyd Williams's "Village Churches of Denbighshire" (cheers). With regard to Ruthin mill he said he thought there could be no doubt that the original purpose of the building itself was a mill but the room above it might at some time or other have been used as a chapel. Referring to Ruthin School, he said a most appropriate opportunity was there taken of speaking with feeling and with esteem of the services of a very honoured but lost member of their Association, Edward Lowry Barnwell. Mr Wood proposed, and an old pupil seconded, a vote of condolence which would come he thought with the utmost propriety from the seat in which Mr Barnwell had kept so many of them in order and in awe. (Cheers.) He did not know that the roof of Ruthin Church had ever been illustrated, but it would be worth while doing so. The meeting held on Thursday evening was one for business, the principal result being the fixing upon Cowbridge as their place of meeting for 1888. Another matter which would interest a great many was the appointment of a committee to consider the practicableness of their meeting in Brittany in 1889. (Hear, hear.) The proceedings of that day were so fresh in their minds that he would not occupy their time by any description of them. Of all the meetings he had attended in North Wales, he did not remember attending any one where they had from beginning to end been so pleasantly, so genially, and so kindly received, or where they had had a president who had thrown himself so completely and so fully into their proceedings. (Cheers.)

The Rev T. H. LLOYD said it was supposed there were two religious communities in the town of Ruthin, one the Black-

friars and the other the Whitefriars. With regard to the laying out of the registers and church plate, many of the clergy complained that they had not sufficiently exact information as to the time the members would arrive at a church.

Mr S. W. WILLIAMS spoke of the churches, the manor houses and the castles which they had seen. The window in Dysserth church was he thought essentially German, and very much in character with the works of Albrecht Dürer. The window at Llanrhaeadr was of later date, but very interesting as illustrating its period. That day they had seen a window recently put in at Bodelwyddan, which was probably equal in execution and colour to any of the most beautiful of ancient work. The effigy at Tremerchion was of about the date of Richard I. He might be right or wrong, but he thought the south aisle of Ruthin church was originally longer than now, and the moulding was perpendicular, and the perpendicular period in the reign of Henry VII. was a great period of church restoration. With regard to Llanynys, he could only say that anything more atrocious than its restoration he had never seen. He hoped the time would come when the parish would be able to restore the arcade. He had an idea that St. Asaph Cathedral might have been longer, but there was nothing to show it now. Of castles the most important after Denbigh was Ruthin. He believed it was simply a great fortress erected by Edward I. for purely military and defensive purposes. Perhaps some one could tell them who was the great military engineer of Edward I. He believed it was possible that he was a bishop. The lower portions of the tower were not used as dungeons, but for the storage of food, &c. By means of a diagram, Mr Williams showed that he thought in Ruthin Castle they had three castles; first the square fortress built by Edward I. then a much larger one was built with a chapel in the middle, and at a very much later period the modern residence was added. They had seen three most interesting manor houses. Bachymbyd, built in 1666, was the later of the three, but notwithstanding the tradition, he believed the building was incomplete. The attics were very highly finished, and were the bedrooms of the house. Yaynol was built at different dates, 1597, 1690, 1725, and 1770. The first work in the house was Elizabethan, the next Jacobean, then Charles II. or Anne. What were now called the backstairs were originally, he believed, the principal stairs. Penisa'rglascoed, dated 1570, was probably the house of a gentleman of less estate, and he thought it had a fore court. The next house, Plasnewydd, dated 1583, was a nice house, of smaller type, probably that of a freeholder. In the house there was some very beautiful carving, exquisite in design, and very solid good work. (Cheers.)

The Rev. ELIAS OWEN read an interesting paper on Parish Records, in which he dwelt upon the important light which the contents of old parish chests threw upon social and other matters. The oldest of those documents were the registers of births, baptisms, and funerals, and the entries in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries were in Latin, but after that date English was generally used. He pointed out that often during the Commonwealth there was a break in the registers. Between 1649 and 1660 there were only two entries in the Llanycil register; both were of marriages, and one was the record of the marriage on the last day of August, 1655, before "John Vaughan, Esquier, one of the justices of the peace," of Thomas Lloyd and Catherine Edwards. In some registers he found records of the state of the weather, and in Cerrigydrudion registers he found a record of the appearance of a comet in 1652, together with a list of the many disasters supposed to follow its appearance. In several

registers he found records of excommunication and penance. On the inside cover of the parish register of Newtown, Montgomeryshire, he found this entry:—"Memorandum, August ye 11th, 1771. The following Persons were denounced Excommunicated—Mary Jones, Mary Davies, Edward Lloyd, Mary Ingram, and Mary Evans, all for Fornication and Bastardy, by Isaac Davies, curate." It is added that "Two of the above mentioned, viz., Mary Ingram and Mary Evans, were absolved at Pool by Thos. Hughes . . . on Friday, ye 29 Day of May, 1772, and did penance in Newtown Church on Sunday ye 31, before the whole congregation." Penance in those parts of Montgomeryshire reached our own days. He was personally acquainted with an old farmer who, in his younger days, did penance, robed in a white sheet, in Llanwnnog Church. He (Mr Owen) received the information from the present parish clerk of that church, who is between eighty and ninety years old. In other parts of Wales the aged had told him of persons who publicly did penance in church for evil doings. Mr Owen quoted other extracts illustrative of the practice of excommunication, and mentioned that in 1635 Archbishop Laud issued a form of penance and absolution, in which the penitent was directed to appear at the church in a white sheet, with a white wand in his hand. In many registers references were found to contentions with regard to sittings in churches. Some registers contained records of burials in churches, an entry in the Derwen register recording the burial of the Rev John Jones, rector of the parish from 1632 to 1672, and though the stone had disappeared the register recorded the inscription upon it. In the Newtown register was the following:—"Died at the Rectory, Newtown, October 7th, 1811, The Revd. Edward Lewis and was buried on the 11th day of October in the Rector's Chancel in the Pew on the North side of the Communion Table, aged 50. He was Rector of Newtown 15 years." Some registers contained records of the amounts offered on the occasions of deaths and marriages. In Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant the average offerings at marriages was 6s, and at funerals about ten shillings. He would give a few extracts:—"1721, Johannes Thomas duxit Gwenam Maurice Mar. 26 £00. 07s. 02d;" "1721 Morganus Thomas clandestine duxit Janam Griffiths, Jan 29, £00 05 00d;" "1715 Johannes Thomas de Trewern, Sep [ultusfruit] Jul. 4 £1 10 3." The Churchwardens' Book, in which was minutely entered an account of moneys collected and expended, was also a book of a most interesting character. From this source Mr Owen quoted the head money offered for the catching of vermin, the average price in the vale of Clwyd, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, varying from 2s 6d and 2s for a bitch fox and a dog fox to a penny and twopence for badgers, ravens and fitchets, and for the satisfaction of the ratepayers the vermin were nailed to the ligth gate of the church. In Llandegla in 1755 was the entry "Paid for two pairs of shoes to Thomas Langford's children £00 2 8d"; but in Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr, in 1820, he found the entry "Pair of new shoes £0 6 9." Clothing also appeared to be cheap, for in Llanychan books, dated 1833, he found "Pair of trousers for boy 1s 3d." Eatables were different in value from what they were now. In Bettws G.G., 1721, he found "Paid for a bottle of wine at Whitsuntide and bread £00 00 11"; and Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr, 1820, "1 strike tatus £0 2 0." In the last century candles, oats, and barley might be mentioned as being dearer than now; and in various books they found records of expenses incurred in regard to the Plugain and the remuneration of the singers of Christmas carols. The practice of strewing the churches with rushes continued long into this century, and proof was often found of the large numbers who com-

municated in church on the chief festivals. The parish accounts were audited, and there was a record of their being read in church on a Sunday in 1711 at Clocaenog, while at Trydydyn, in 1810, he found a record of a vestry meeting held in the church "as every other [vestry meeting] ought to be." Many of the resolutions of vestries were adopted with the view of discouraging paupers, but when a journeyman tradesman was wanted, he was by resolution made a parishioner. There were many curious entries regarding the pastimes of the people, and the following was an entry in the Vestry Book of Newtown—"May 25, 1722, It is agreed by the inhabitants of the town and parish of New Town. That persons playing Ball upon the church or against the walls or steeple thereof, shall forfeit for every such offence the sum of five shillings, payable to the churchwardens for ye time being, to be laid out in the repairs of the windows of the said church. As witness our hands ye day, and year above said. Jon. Pryce, Ev. Evans, Rectr.," and others. That was the only instance he had met with of a layman signing before the rector. Many churches had until lately black lines a short distance from the ground, on the outside walls below which the ball would not be in play. Butington was one of these churches, and he believed that even now the line could be traced at Llansilin. The scores of matches played on Llanellidan Church were still to be seen. A singular resolution was passed in the end of the last century by the parishioners of Llanwddyn, which was to limit themselves to the consumption of a certain quantity of wheat, so as to tide over the scarcity then existing, and to provide a sufficient quantity for sowing. Terriers were documents which contained much information, and other loose papers were not without a certain value. In conclusion he said he was sorry that the records he had placed under contribution were not kept as carefully as they deserved, and vestry records should be kept in the parish church, and not left as they often were in the hands of private individuals.

Archdeacon THOMAS said the marriage registers had to be entered on a new form in 1754; in 1813 another form was issued, and in 1837 another. In Whittington parish, the then rector, Mr Lloyd, was very much puzzled by the column which required him to insert the "condition" of the persons married. He solved it by writing "He, fat; she, lean." (Laughter.)

The PRESIDENT said he should like it to be entered on the record that the now popular game of lawn tennis was the old national game of Cerrigydrudion. That game had been played there for centuries.

On the motion of Archdeacon THOMAS, seconded by Mr BANKES, a vote of thanks was cordially given to the local committee for their efforts for the comfort of the Association, and Col. MESHAM responded.

Mr R. H. WOOD, in proposing a vote of thanks to those who had contributed objects to the museum, said it was very rarely indeed that they had a better museum.

Mr WORTHINGTON SMITH seconded the motion, which was supported by the PRESIDENT, and carried with warm applause. Major LLOYD WILLIAMS, the secretary of the local committee, acknowledged the motion.

On the motion of Mr S. W. WILLIAMS, seconded by Mr LLOYD GRIFFITHS, a cordial vote of thanks was given to the Mayor and Corporation of Denbigh, and to the magistrates of the county, for granting the Association the free use of the County Hall and the Assembly Room, and in the absence of the Mayor, the Town Clerk, Mr PARRY-JONES, acknowledged the motion.

This concluded the session of the Association, but many of the members dallied in the town next morning, loth to leave the admirable museum which had been got together through the assiduity of the local committee, and their

hon. secretary, Major Lloyd Williams. More than four hundred different objects were contributed to the museum.

Mrs Mainwaring, of Galtfaenan, was a large contributor, her contributions including a quantity of old silver, several portraits of members of the distinguished family of Salusbury, a portrait of Maria Charlotte Pugh of Rŵg, and Mathafarn, several prints by Buck dated 1742 of Welsh castles, including two of Denbigh Castle and one of Chirk Castle, Speed's Theatre of the British Empire (1611) and an old MS. record of the Great Sessions for Denbigh and Flint 1637 to 1650. Col. Mesham of Pontruffydd sent an old Gallic or British ring, found on Penygær, near Bodfari, a silver watch, once the property of Prince Charles Edward, a Jacobite Cup, inscribed with verses adapted from the National Anthem, and a number of other interesting objects. A large collection of bones and other curiosities taken from the Plas Heaton caves was sent by the Rev. H. E. Heaton, and some osteological contributions as well as autograph letters of Mrs Piozzi and Dr. Johnson, were sent by Mr P. P. Pennant of Nantyllys. Some memorials of the Ashantee war were contributed by Col. Cary of Ty Mawr, Ruthin, and Mr G. J. Lockyer of Llandudno, sent some thirteenth and fifteenth-century MSS., illuminated on vellum. The contribution of the Corporation of Denbigh was a large and valuable one, including charters and grants affecting the borough, autograph letters of distinguished men, and silver plate. Mr William Lloyd, town clerk of Ruthin, sent amongst other things a snuff box, once belonging to Twm o'r Nant, and the Ruthin Corporation sent two silver drinking cups and the Town Mace. Mr R. G. Joyce of Bôd Gruffydd, Ruthin, contributed a quantity of old plate and some prints of local celebrities, including Sir Hugh Myddleton, Bt., after a picture at Chirk Castle, Sir William Williams, Bt., Recorder of Chester, Speaker of the House of Commons, and Solicitor General, from a picture in Chester Town Hall, Sir John Trevor, Master of the Rolls, and Speaker of the House of Commons, from a picture at Brynkinalt, Sir Humphrey Llwyd, from a picture at Aston, Sir Orlando Bridgeman, Sir John Wynne, Bt., from a picture by Sir Godfrey Kneller at Wynnstay, and one of Sir Thomas Hanmer, Speaker of the House of Commons, from a picture at Bettisfield. The same contributor also lent a print of "The Cambrian Shakespeare," underneath which is the couplet—

Llun Gwr yn llawn gwir Awen ;
Y Byd a lanwyd o'i Ben.

Mrs Burton of Gwaenynog was the contributor of engraved portraits of members of the Myddleton family, of an ingenious invalid chair used by Dr Johnson, and other interesting articles. Mr John Lloyd of the Bull Hotel, Denbigh, was the contributor of prints of a former Sir Watkin and of Twm o'r Nant, and a small brass instrument denominated as a "puzzle," but as it was found near the Druid Inn, Corwen, having been washed down the hill by a flood, it is supposed to be a mining instrument. Mrs Llewellyn F. Heaton and Miss Fenton amongst a large collection had an engraving showing the north-east prospect of Chirk Castle, on which are given some of the dimensions of the Castle. They also contributed portraits of Sir Hugh Myddleton. Mr T. A. Wynne Edwards of Park Cottage was a large contributor, one item being a curious drinking cup, mounted on a pedestal formed of four rams' horns, and bearing the inscription—

Heddwch ac Iechyd,
A Diod hyfryd
A Meinir Lanbryd.

Mrs C. Wynne Edwards was the contributor of several interesting books, including Speed's Atlas (1676). Mr

David Jones, Tanygraig, lent several prints, including one of Pont Newydd, Corwen, and another of Foel Fammau, which were drawn, engraved, and published in 1794, by E. Pugh, of Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and four of which are dedicated to Lord Bagot, R. W. Wynne, Esq., M.P., Lord Kenyon, and Lord Bulkeley. Amongst other contributors to the museum were Miss Mainwaring of Galtfaenan, the Dean of St. Asaph, Mr H. D. P. chin of Bodnant Hall, Conway, Mr E. B. Luxmore of St. Asaph, Mr A. Anwyl, Denbigh, Mr James Howard, Denbigh, Major Casson of Cae Derw, Denbigh, Mrs Blackwall, Dolhyfryd, Denbigh, Mr James Hughes, Denbigh, Mr R. Humphreys Roberts, Denbigh, Mr W. Chambres, Neston, Mrs Thomas, Llandudno, Miss Turnour, Denbigh, Mrs Mostyn, Segrwyd, Mr Richard Williams, Denbigh, Mrs Humphreys, Pensarn, Mr J. Lloyd Roberts, Denbigh, Mr John Davies, Bryn-y-parc, Denbigh, Sergeant Masters, Denbigh, Mr Ellis Williams, Denbigh, Mr J. Parry-Jones, town clerk of Denbigh, Mr P. H. Chambres of Llysmeirchion, Mr D. P. Jones, Denbigh, Mr Williams, the Leopard Inn, Major Ireland Blackburne of Tanygyrt, and the Rev. R. Trevor Owen of Llangedwyn. From this cursory description it will be gathered that the museum is one of most sterling attractiveness.

The following members attended the meetings of the Association:—Mr R. H. Wood, Mr Bankes, Mr Bankes, jun., Mr S. W. Williams, Mr Lloyd Griffith, Mr P. P. Pennant, Mr Crane, Miss Dunkin, Miss Lucy Griffith, Miss Lloyd Jones, the Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, the Rev. T. H. Lloyd, Nerquis, the Rev. Elias Owen, the Ven. Archdeacon Thomas, the Rev. R. Trevor Owen, Mr T. M. Owen, H.M.I.S., and Mr Worthington Smith.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1887.

NOTES.

A PROLIFIC MEMBER OF SOCIETY.—The following is a copy of an epitaph in the churchyard of Llantrithyd, in Glamorganshire:—

In memory of Rt. Thomas of Cowbridge.

Died May 17, 1837, aged 53 years.

Jane wife of the above died Dec. 18, 1846, aged 63.

She was the youngest daughter and thirty-sixth child of the late Benjamin Howell, Esq., in this County. Southsea. W.P.

REBELS AND TRAYTORS.—The following is a copy of a proclamation, issued by Parliament on August 10th, 1659, one of the Original Broad-sides on which it was printed being at present preserved with other interesting relics of the Civil Wars at Chirk Castle. It was exhibited at the Art Loan Exhibition at the Victoria Rooms, Oswestry, in December, 1886. BONWM.

BY THE PARLIAMENT.

WHEREAS the Old and Implacable Enemy having for some time before the restoring of this Parliament, formed a Design for the bringing in of Charles Stewart to the destruction of all the faithfull and constant Assertors of the Parliaments most Just and Righteous Cause, and had brought it to such ripeness, that (by the confession of divers Engaged) the day was prefixed the First of this instant August for their Rising in Arms; but through the good Providence of the Lord, were so timely discovered, that their design was in a great measure Disappointed. Nevertheless, it hath pleased the onely Wise God, to suffer the said Design so far to break forth, that Randolph Egerton, a Major General, and Robert Werden,

a Colonel, with divers others, Officers and Commanders in the War under the late King, together with Sir Thomas Middleton, Sir George Booth, and other Apostates, in prosecution of the same Design, have Proclaimed Charles Stewart to be King, Levied Actual War, and possess themselves of Chester.

The Parliament doth therefore Declare and Proclaim the said Randolph Egerton, Robert Werden, Sir George Booth, Sir Thomas Middleton, and their Adherents in this War, to be Rebels and Traytors.

And because it is not probable that the said persons should, upon what specious pretences soever, undertake so wicked a Design without expecting Assistance from others, The Parliament, to the end that no more of the people of this Commonwealth be seduced into any Compliance with them, do also Declare, That whosoever shall from henceforth anyways Assist, Abet or Conceal the carrying on of their said Design, be Deemed and Adjudged Rebels and Traytors, and shall be proceeded against accordingly.

Passed August the 9th, 1659.

Wednesday, August 10, 1659.

Resolved by the Parliament,

That this Proclamation be Proclaimed in all the Market-Towns in this Commonwealth, and Read in every Church.

THO. ST. NICHOLAS,
Clerk of the Parliament.

London, Printed by JOHN FIELD, Printer to the Parliament.
And are to be sold at the Seven Stars in Fleet-street, over against Dunstons Church, 1659.

THE REBELLION OF HARRY HOTSPUR.—

Richard the Second, as the son of the Black Prince, was of course the rightful and lawful successor to the English Crown, on the death of his grandfather, Edward the Third. He had no children of his own, his heirs therefore should be found in the descendants of his uncle, Lionel, the Duke of Clarence, and they again were to be looked for among the Mortimers, one of whom had been married to Hotspur. But in 1399, as we know, Henry Bolingbroke, the eldest son of John of Gaunt (a younger brother of Lionel's) headed a rebellion against King Richard, and compelled that unhappy Sovereign to abdicate, and thereupon became Sovereign; but, strangely enough, the Earl of Northumberland, and his son Hotspur, gave their support to Bolingbroke, and so ignored the Mortimer claims to the succession. Bolingbroke was crowned at Westminster in October, 1399, and in the same month and year Hotspur was appointed by the new Sovereign Lieutenant and Justice of North Wales, Chester, and Flintshire, and we find he was directed in 1401-2, as Governor of Denbigh Castle, to send his Constable to Ruthin to assist De Grey, in defending the Castle there against Owen Glendower. It is manifest therefore that he had abandoned King Richard, had made no sign in support of Mortimer, was actually opposed to Glendower, and supporting Henry the Fourth, and serving under him. All of a sudden he changed front, and in July, 1403, he led his followers to Shrewsbury in open warfare against his Sovereign, and there he was killed on the 22nd of July, asserting, that Henry Bolingbroke was the murderer of Richard, and a traitor to the true heir to the throne—a Mortimer. How is this sudden change to be accounted for? The English writers say the Percies considered themselves aggrieved by Henry's

conduct to them, and therefore rebelled, in favour of the Welsh Earl of March, grandson of Lionel, son of Edward the Third; but this statement does not meet the necessity of the case, for the reasons already mentioned, and it yet remains to be shewn how the Percies had been "aggrieved," and why they should have joined Glendower in his revolt against Bolingbroke. Is there the slightest reason for saying that Glendower himself favoured the Earl of March? If any of your readers can throw light upon this curious chapter in our history, it is very desirable it should be done.

MENTMORE.

QUERIES.

THE LATE REV. THOMAS POWELL, F.L.S.—In the *Chronicle* of the London Missionary Society for June of the present year appears a biographical sketch of this earnest and able Samoan missionary. Was the rev. gentlemen a Welshman, and where was he born? Brecknock. Quiz.

THE MOFFATT FAMILY.—I have been told that the late venerable Dr. Moffatt, the African missionary, was in some way connected with Breconshire. Did not his daughter marry a Breconshire minister, who is now a missionary? I heard Dr. Moffatt deliver an address in the English Congregational Chapel, Brecon, in the autumn of 1874 or 1875. I then understood he was visiting his daughter's husband's relatives. Quiz.

Brecknock.

REPLIES.

AN OLD OSWESTRY THEOLOGICAL AUTHOR (Aug. 24, 1887).—There were several references to John Reynolds in the 1st and 2nd vols. of *Bye-Gones*. To describe him as a "theological author" is perhaps scarcely accurate. He was a son of Jacob Reynolds of Chirk, who married a sister of John Davies of Rhiwlas, author of the well-known "Display of Heraldry." John Reynolds got hold of his uncle's MSS., and published (says Williams in his "Eminent Welshmen") "a confused medley put together without any knowledge of the subject." W.O.

EDWARD WILLIAMS (Aug. 17, 1887).—"R.A." will find an account of Dr. Edward Williams in Williams's "Eminent Welshmen." He was born at Glandwyd, near Denbigh, in 1750, was an Independent minister at Ross in 1775, and removed for Oswestry in 1777, where he conducted an Academy or College for the training of Dissenting ministers. He was minister of the Old Chapel in that town until 1791, when he was chosen to a similar office at Carr's Lane Chapel, Birmingham. He was the author of many theological works and a great controversialist. W.O.

The author of "Antipaedo Baptism" was the celebrated Doctor Edward Williams, Master of Rotherham Academy. Williams was minister at Oswestry, and removed to Birmingham in 1792, and from there again to Rotherham, where he died March 9, 1813. The two Vols. on "Antipaedo Baptism" were written in reply to Abraham Booth. His Essay on the "Equity of Divine Government, and the Sovereignty of the Divine Grace" is a monument of his power of reasoning.

Llwyndedwydd.

LLYWARCH HEN.

CURRENT NOTES.

Lord Rowton has just presented to the Shrewsbury Museum the original requisition, signed by about 600 electors, to Mr Disraeli, to contest the borough in the Conservative interest in 1841, on which occasion he was returned with Mr Tomline as his colleague.

Mr Frank H. Williams wrote to a contemporary last week from Chester:—The workmen who for some weeks past have been engaged in repairing part of the northern wall of our city, near the Phoenix Tower, have just brought to light another interesting inscribed relic of the Roman period. It consists of a massive tablet or block of sandstone, which must once have served to mark the resting-place of one of the soldiers of the Twentieth Legion. When passing the spot between seven and eight o'clock this morning I witnessed the removal of the gravestone from the mural prison in which for so many centuries it has been confined. The inscription, which is distinctly legible, and incised upon an "ansated" panel, is as follows, the letters within the brackets being the only ones missing:—

D [M]
CINCINIV [S]
VETERANV [S]
VIX-AN-LXXX
CVIRA-AEL[II]
CANDI[DI]

The following expansion suggests itself:—*Dis Manibus, Cincinius Veteranus. Vixit annos LXXX. Cura Aelii Candidi*—i.e., "To the Gods—the Shades. Cincinius Veteranus, he lived eighty years. By the care of Aelius Candidus" (i.e., this memorial was erected). This is but one of a large number of Roman inscribed and sculptured stones which the above limited excavation has yielded. Nearly all the grave memorials refer to soldiers of the Legion.

BIRD HOOKED BY AN ANGLER.—Mr R. Langford, Weston, Oswestry, writing to the *Field*, says:—On August 29, while Mr Glover of Oswestry was fishing in the mill pool here, he caught by the thigh a large snipe in the air. I have known bats, swallows, and even a rat to be caught by a fisherman, but never before a snipe. I have the bird here. It was brought to me with the hook through it, alive, and otherwise unhurt.—The following note is appended by the Editor of the *Field*:—There can be no doubt in this case that the bird was hooked by the merest accident, and not in consequence of its attempting to take the angler's fly. So far as we know, snipe are not in the habit of taking insects on the wing. It would be well to have it made quite clear that the bird in question was a true snipe (*Gallinago*), and not a "summer snipe" or common sandpiper (*Tringoides hypoleucus*). The latter bird is a summer visitor in this country, and would be much more likely to be seen at a millpool at this time of year than a common snipe.

The Late Mrs. Walsham How.

We have, with much regret, to record the death at Barnmouth on Sunday morning, Aug. 28, of Mrs Walsham How, the wife of the Bishop of Bedford. The Bishop, who, with Mrs How, had been spending his annual holiday at Barnmouth, had arranged to visit his old parish of Whittington, to preach there on Sunday week and at Ebnal, on behalf of the Shropshire fund of the East London Mission, and to hold a confirmation on Monday. Mrs How, who had suffered from asthma and had been for some years in delicate health, was too unwell to accompany the Bishop to Whittington, but no immediate danger was apprehended. The Bishop officiated

with the Rector, the Rev. Hugh Holbech, at an early celebration of the Holy Communion at Whittington church on Sunday morning, and shortly afterwards a telegram was received at the Rectory, announcing the sudden death of his wife. The distressing intelligence was broken to the Bishop by the Rector, and his lordship returned to Barnmouth by the morning train. The deepest and most widespread sympathy with the Bishop and his family was expressed when the sad news became known. Mrs Walsham How, who was 61 years of age, was daughter of the Rev. Henry Douglas, Canon of Durham, and was married in 1849. She was much beloved by her family and friends and took a keen interest in her husband's work in East London. The funeral took place at Whittington, on Wednesday.

The Late Sir W. Edward Hanmer, Bart.

We regret to record the death of Sir Wyndham Edward Hanmer, Bart., which took place at Bettisfield Park, Flintshire, on Thursday, Aug. 25. Sir Edward died at ten o'clock in the morning while sitting quietly in his chair. His death arose from a complication of disorders. He had long been a martyr to gout, which had confined him entirely to his house for two or three years past. The late baronet was second son of Mr Thomas Hanmer, son of the second baronet, by Arabella Charlotte, daughter of the late Mr Thomas S. Dyott Bucknall, M.P., and was born in 1810. He was formerly in the Horse Guards, but retired on becoming major in the regiment. Sir Wyndham succeeded to the baronetcy on the death of his elder brother, Lord Hanmer, in 1881. He married first in 1842, Victoria Maria Louisa, daughter of the late Sir John Conroy, Bart., and by her, who died in 1866, he had issue an only son, Edward; he married secondly in 1877, Harriet Frances, eldest daughter of the late Colonel the Hon. Henry Hely-Hutchinson, who survives her husband. The late baronet was a deputy-lieutenant for Beds, Bucks, and Flint, and for the last named county he had served the office of high sheriff in 1885. Since his succession to the baronetcy he had carried on the work of improving and reconstructing the farm buildings on his estate, in which the late Lord Hanmer was actively engaged at the time of his death. During the period of depression he has from time to time made a reduction of ten per cent to his agricultural tenants. He was much respected as a landlord and in his other relations of life. The funeral took place on Tuesday, Aug. 30, at Hanmer, at noon. Sir Edward is succeeded in the baronetcy and estates in Flintshire, Shropshire, Beds, and Bucks by his only son, Edward John Henry, born in 1843, and married to Mary Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr R. Fosse, of Liffey-bridge, county Dublin.

DARWIN'S "LIFE AND LETTERS."

Professor Alfred Newton, F.R.S., in his address to the British Association, gave some interesting particulars of this forthcoming work. The present year (he said) will in future be remembered as that in which "The Life and Letters" of our great biologist Charles Darwin appeared. There can be little doubt that before the end of this year that work, which all naturalists have been expecting with so much anxiety, will be published, and published, moreover, in three languages. By favour of its author, Mr Francis Darwin, I have been allowed to see some of his

proof sheets, and I am sanguine that it will not disappoint the expectations of its readers. On one point I venture to speak with some certainty. The noble character of the man will be made manifest to the world in words and deeds that cannot be spoken against, and we may feel assured that in future

Whatever record leap to light,
He never shall be shamed.

He is unsparing of his own mistakes or shortcomings ; and, while admitting with the utmost generosity the assistance he received from others, the dignified way in which he thought and expressed himself towards the many who attacked him, often unscrupulously and in a manner which he could not but deeply feel, will ever redound to his credit, and prove him to have been that great philosopher which all his friends and adherents would wish to believe him. Not a spark of jealousy was kindled in his mind ; and at what may be considered the most trying moment of all, when the theory he had for twenty years been testing by every means in his power, the theory on which he built all his hopes of future recognition, the theory which he not unnaturally believed to be his peculiar possession—when this theory, I say, was independently conceived by another naturalist, his conduct was emphatically that of a man of honour. It pained him acutely to think that this naturalist, a trusted correspondent, an esteemed philosophical observer, and at the very time a wanderer far from home, should be deprived of the full glory of his ingenuity ; and, but for the counsel of judicious friends (whose good advice on this occasion is indisputable), Mr Darwin would have withdrawn every claim of his own to this great discovery, and left it entirely to Mr Wallace. In the history of science and invention I think there are few cases like this.

SEPTEMBER 14, 1887.

NOTES.

SHROPSHIRE AND THE POPISSH PLOT.—If we may judge from the Historical Manuscripts Commission's report on the House of Lords Manuscripts (1678-88) recently issued, Shropshire had very little to do with the Popish Plot of that period. The only reference which I can find relates to the year 1678, and is as follows :—

Dec. 26, Popish Plot (Harcourt).—Draft order requiring the Sheriff of the County of Salop to send Valentine Harcourt, a Popish priest, in custody in Shrewsbury gaol, to appear at the bar. [Two letters to Lord Newport were read this day in the House, concerning Valentine Harcourt, a Popish priest of 75 years of age. Bedloe being called for to know whether this was the man, said the man's name was William Harcourt, as he had mentioned formerly. The House then made the above order.]

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

WELSH BOOK PRINTED AT OSWESTRY.—The third Welsh edition of a somewhat famous book in its day, i.e., "Drych y Prif Oesoedd" [the "Mirror of the Primitive Ages"] was printed in the year 1794, at Oswestry, by Mr W. Edwards, printer. The author was the Revd. Theophilus Evans, Breconshire, clergyman, and the grandfather of Theophilus Jones, the Breconshire historian. The principal subscribers to the work were inhabitants and booksellers of Oswestry,

Shrewsbury, Llanfyllin, etc. The Oswestry subscribers were :—

Edwd. Green, paper mills, near Oswestry.
Edwd. Howell, currier, Oswestry.
Matthew Hughes, maltster, Oswestry.
Thomas Jones, hatter, Oswestry.
Mrs. Kyffin, maltster, Oswestry.
Mr Thos. Morris, maltster, Oswestry.
Mr. John Owen, Oswestry.
Mr. Roberts, hatter, Oswestry.
Mr. John Roberts, gardener, Oswestry.
Mr. Thomas Williams, Oswestry.

Two further Welsh editions of the work were printed by Mr Edwards in the years 1796 and 1799. I have already traced ten editions of this work, eight in Welsh, and two in English, one of the latter an American translation.

Brecknock.

E.P.

SIR THOMAS MIDDLETON, BART., ELECTED A BURGESS OF OSWESTRY IN 1674.—The following is among the documents at Chirk Castle :—

BEEITKNOWNE vnto all men by these p'sent Let's (?) Testimoniall that att an Elec'on held att Oswestry by me Edward Owen Esquire Deputy Mayor and the Aldermen & Com'on Counsell of the said Towne upon fryday the ninth day of October in the sixe & twentieth yeare of the Raigne of our Sovraigne Lord Kinge Charles the Second by the grace of God of England Scotland France & Ireland Defender of the faith, &c. Annoq. Domⁱ 1674^r Sir Thomas Middleton of Chirke Castle in the County of Denbigh Knight & Baronett was Elected & chosen Burgesse of the said Towne of Oswestry And hee the said Sir Thomas Middleton is Burgesse of the said Towne of Oswestry Gratis takinge the Burgeses oath And the yssue of his body lawfully begotten & to bee begotten are to bee Burgeses of the said Towne & ought to have & vse the privilege & freedome of the said Towne in as large & ample man'er as other the Burgeses of the said Towne have heretofore had & doe Enjoy the same. **IN WITNESSE** whereof I the said Edward Owen have hereunto putt my hand & the Towne Seale of the Towne of Oswestry aforesaid with the consent & approbac'on of Sir John Trevor Knight Mayor of the said Towne & Bourough of Oswestry & Cheife Steward of the Right Hon'ble William Earl of Craven Lord of the said Towne & Bourough the day & yeare first above written.

E. OWEN.

[Seal of Oswestry in red wax.]

BONWM.

QUERIES.

ELIHU YALE.—An American friend writes as follows :—"I came across the following in a local newspaper recently—'Elihu Yale, the founder of Yale College, lies buried in a little church at Wrexham, Denbighshire, Wales.' Then followed the inscription on his tombstone. Is it in Wrexham parish churchyard he is buried ?" Can any of your readers give me the information ?

J.E.G.

Chester.

LAWN TENNIS AN OLD WELSH GAME.—At the meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association at Denbigh on Friday evening, August 26, the president, Colonel Mainwaring, is reported to have said—"He should like it to be entered on the record that

the now popular game of lawn tennis was the old national game of Cerrig-y-drudion. That game had been played there for centuries." It would be interesting to know the local name of the game, and Col. Mainwaring would confer a favour upon many if he will kindly give a description of the game as locally played in the district to which he referred.

BONWM.

REPLIES.

AN OLD OSWESTRY THEOLOGICAL AUTHOR. (Aug. 24, Sept. 7, 1887).—I had the loan of an imperfect copy of John Reynolds's "Book of Pedigrees" many years ago, from the late Mrs Bibby, Brynaber, Llanrhaidr. In a conversation with the late Mr J. Askew Roberts, about two or three years before his demise, he said that he fully intended to reconstruct and publish the book, but the design was never carried out. There is a mural monument in Llansilin Church to one of the Reynoldses.

LLYWARCH HEN,

Llwyn Dedwydd.

A HISTORY OF WALES (Aug. 10, 31, 1887).—Your correspondent "E.P.," in his obliging reply to my query about the author of this work, states that "its worth was discounted by an unpardonable blemish, viz., the expression of views by the author which clearly showed that he held the Welsh nation in contempt." I was sorry when I read the above sentence, for since I propounded my query I had spent several pleasant half hours scanning the pages of Dr Jones's History, and had not read through the preface before I became acquainted with the fact that he was not at all afraid of calling a spade a spade. Writing before 1824, he expressed his opinion upon a question which has recently received considerable attention in Wales, viz., Tithes. "The parallel of tithes under Jewish and Christian agriculture will outstand contradiction (a statistical illustration is given at page 134 of the volume), and, it is to be hoped, will induce the British Legislature to remove the impost, and place the clergy in a more comfortable and independent condition. There is something so unreasonable in the mode of providing for the ministers of the Church that it is a matter of surprise the Parliament has so long overlooked its consideration:—the land pays tithes; the hearers live in houses which are not titheable; the poor land pays tithe, and yet that poor land covers mines of great profits which are not titheable, and the system is altogether objectionable because it exposes the minister to annual litigation with every landholder in the parish." At page 141 he states "that the Welsh Church is a valuable and admirable establishment, but from want of useful regulations it is deficient in discipline and deserted by the community. The Welsh Church is always presided over by English Bishops, and from these injudicious appointments arise the serious evils of mismanagement in the bishops, and want of discipline in the clergy. These evils are not brought forward as charges, but noticed as certain and inevitable consequences. Suppose the See of London had been filled for centuries by Welsh Bishops who could not speak a word of the English language? The consequences are apparent, and Wales is exposed to all of them, and if the Welsh clergy had not been of good hearts, and lovers of their King

and country, they would long ago have become a lawless mob." He suggested that Welsh Bishops should be supplied from the Welsh clergy, and the poor curate, in such cases, might have motives to excelling, and cherish a hope of obtaining a mitre. He suggested that libraries should be formed in county towns, or other convenient and central places, for the use of the clergy, to consist of treatises on every topic, particularly on morals, medicine, and agriculture—the books to be lent out and returned monthly. He also suggested that collections of contributory Welsh sermons from various hands should be occasionally sent to the press and distributed as an example of composition among the junior clergy, who it was presumed would in time benefit by such examples, and become themselves future contributors to such collections. Nearly all these things are altered now. His remarks upon the Nonconformists in Wales deserve reproduction, for they were, when written, judged by the position the Nonconformists hold to-day, *prophetic*. I will not add them to the tail end of an unconscionably lengthy communication, but transmit them in a separate note, if this subject is suitable to *Bye-Gones*, as also Dr. Jones's opinions of the "Manners and Customs" of his fellow-countrymen. I think these will remove the imputation that "he held the Welsh nation in contempt."

A KILT.

CURRENT NOTES.

Lord Lovat, whose estates were the subject of an action brought by Mr John Fraser, of Carnarvon, died very suddenly last week. He will be succeeded by his son, a lad of sixteen.

At Tremerchion, a worked flint implement has been dug up in the cave earth, extending outside one of the caves, under twenty-three feet of boulder clay through which a vertical shaft has been driven.

Dr. Henry Hicks read a paper last week in the Anthropology section of the British Association on "The Migrations of Pre-glacial Man." Referring to the further researches carried on this summer at Cae-Gwynn Cave, North Wales, the author stated that the additional evidence obtained proved most conclusively that the flint implement found there last year in association with the remains of pleistocene animals was under entirely undisturbed glacial deposits. He maintained also that the evidence was equally clear in regard to the implements found within the caverns, which he said must have been introduced before the glacial deposits blocked up and covered over the caverns.

In the Geological section of the British Association, Mr W. W. Watts read a paper on "A Shropshire Picrite." Therein he described a new locality, the Shelve District, giving an extremely characteristic rock ophtic structure consisting of grains of olivine set in plates of angite, with a little felspar, magnetite, and biotite. In its chemical composition (40 per cent. of silica) and its specific gravity (2.93) it agreed with the list of picrites given by Wadsworth. Its mode of occurrence was a forked dyke extending from Shelve Pool to Dygwyllfa, and from Shelve Pool to Mucklewic Hill, occupying a fault plane which traverses the Arenig Ashes, and probably the latest intrusion in the region, being at earliest post-Silurian.

On Thursday night the annual conversazione of the Chester Society of Natural Science was held at the Grosvenor Museum, under the presidency of Professor T. Mackenny Hughes, there being also present a number of distinguished members of the British Association. The Kingsley memorial and medal for having contributed materially to the promotion and advancement of some branch of natural science was awarded to Mr W. Shone, F.G.S., for his contribution towards unravelling the extent and sequence of events in the later glacial period. The Kingsley memorial prize for observations illustrating the natural science of the society's district was awarded to Mr J. Lyon Denson. On the motion of the President, Dr Sterry Hunt, of Montreal; Professor Villanova, of Madrid; the Abbe Rénard, of Belgium; and Sir R. S. Ball, Astronomer Royal of Ireland, were elected honorary members of the Society, and all three delivered interesting addresses. Sir Robert Ball, in his address, said there was an immense work yet to be done in the direction of stimulating the study of science in our schools. At present the boys in our public schools devoted four-fifths of their time to the study of Latin and Greek, and in the great majority of cases the study of science was utterly neglected. If they were to teach a man to live, the first thing should be to teach him the law of self-preservation. Our teachers should teach us the elements of physiology.

THE MARTEN IN NORTH WALES.—The report of the capture of a marten at Llandrillo, which we gave on Aug. 24th, appears in Saturday's *Field*. The Editor appends the following note:—It was at one time supposed that two species of marten existed in this country—the pine marten (dark brown with a yellow throat) and the beech marten (light brown with a white throat), but the researches of the late Mr Alston led him to the conclusion that only one kind, the pine marten, is found here. His remarks on the subject will be found in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society for 1879, p. 468. We should be glad to know what evidence there is in support of the statement that martens prey on weasels, both being members of the same family, Mustelidæ. The marten is, in fact, an arboreal weasel.

REMARKABLE APPEARANCE AT CAERSWS.—Mrs Ceiriog-Hughes writes as follows in the "Cymru Fu" Column of the *Western Mail*, apropos of a paragraph which had appeared in the "Red Dragon" (formerly published at the *Western Mail* Office):—"During my husband's long and tedious illness we were in the habit of keeping a well-trimmed lamp burning brightly the night through. The night to which I would allude had been unusually calm and still. I had been asleep about a couple of hours when I awoke feeling such an icy-cold draught that I instinctively covered my face, but, thinking that my husband might feel it too, I reached across to draw the coverlet over him when I found him wide awake. We did not speak but lay watching, for a few seconds, one side of the long white curtain being blown right across the room. I then raised myself on my elbow to see if by any chance the bedroom door had been left open, when I saw what appeared to be a tall white figure gliding noiselessly out of the room. For a moment or two I was breathless, and turning to my husband saw surprise, if not pain, on his face. 'Did you see that?' I asked. 'Yes,' he replied, and then, fearing to excite him, I got up as though the fire needed stirring, but in reality to satisfy myself that the door was locked. I found it perfectly fast, however, and on examining the curtain found it tight behind the dressing table. Taking a light, I then went to my daughter's room, and anxiously peered into her bed, but saw that she was fast asleep, and had apparently never moved.

On returning to my own room, I looked out of the window into the night, and tried to account for the draught that had so suddenly awakened me, when my husband broke the silence by saying 'You are thinking of that Witch of Endor affair.' I then asked him what he had seen, and he told me exactly what I had a few minutes before witnessed myself. I am not at all superstitious; neither was my husband, and I believe that if anyone had applied that term to us we should have felt annoyed. What I have stated is simply and solely a fact. My husband died a few weeks after, and possibly it is this which impresses it so much on my mind. I still live in the same house, but I have neither seen nor heard of anything like it since."

SEPTEMBER 21, 1887.

NOTES.

THREE ACRES AND A COW.—Mr Jesse Collings, M.P., is generally credited with having been the first to propound the doctrine that every labourer should have attached to his holding "three acres and a cow." Whilst yielding to the honourable member due credit for the suggestion, it would seem from the subjoined extract taken from a Gaol File, relating to the county of Montgomery, of the 8th year of King Charles the First (1632-3), that it is only the revival of what at that time was the usual condition attached to the occupation of a cottage. Among the presentments of the Grand Jury at the Great Sessions held at Pool that year, is the following:—"We present David Thomas of Coedtallog, for inhabiting and maintaining a cottage in Coedtallog, not having four acres of land thereunto belonging, contrary to the form of the statute in that case made and provided." These presentments were of common occurrence, the year following there were no less than *twenty-nine* persons presented for a similar infraction of the law.

PEARMAN,

BANGOR CATHEDRAL CHURCH ACT.—The following appears in the Historical Manuscripts Commission's Report on the House of Lords' Manuscripts for the year 1685:—

June 22, Bangor Cathedral Church Act.—Amended draft of an Act for the repair of the Cathedral Church of Bangor and for the maintenance of the choir there, and for the augmentation of the Revenue of the Bishopric of Bangor, and also for an augmentation of several vicarages within the comports of Llandinam in the Diocese of Bangor aforesaid. [Read, 1st, this day: Royal Assent, 2nd July.]

Annexed:—

(a) 25 June.—Amendment, marked A. Applies one-third of the two comports of the rectory of Llandinam for the augmentation of vicarages, and the other two-thirds for the repair of the Cathedral Church and choir. [Substituted, this day, on re-commitment, for the words in the Bill applying the residue of the profits to the maintenance of the choir.] Cardiff. G.H.B.

WELSH MAGISTRATES 300 YEARS AGO.—A good deal has been written lately about the political proclivities of Flintshire justices, but what must have been the state of that county and all the other Welsh counties in the reign of Henry VIII., when "justices of

the peace were limited to *eight* in each Welsh county," or 96 for the whole of Wales! And as the royal tyrant only appointed his favourites (like Sir John Price, of the Priory, Brecknock, who drove the poor monks out of the Benedictine Priory of St. John), the lives and property of the inhabitants of Wales were at the mercy of these 96 justices. The severity of this autocratic county government was somewhat relaxed at the glorious Revolution, when, by 5th and 6th William and Mary, cap. 4, the repeal of this iniquitous provision was enacted, and the King was empowered to "augment the number of justices in each county as he might think fit." Towards the end of the seventeenth century the county of Brecknock enjoyed the services of 30 justices, including the king's officers within the county. In 1886 the county possessed 140 justices, and this is about the average number now. Can anyone give Henry the VIII.'s "list of Eight" for each Welsh county?

EDWIN POOLE.

Brecknock.

THE MANOR OF WEM: AN OLD DISPUTE.—

The recently issued report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission on the House of Lords' Manuscripts (1678-88) contains the following:—

"Nov. 27, 1680. Wycherley v. Tyler.—Petition of Daniel Wycherley, of Clyde, in the county of Salop, Esq. Some forty tenants of the Manor of Wem having brought their bill in the Exchequer against Petitioner, as lord of the manor, to confirm twenty several pretended customs of the manor, after two of their bills—one in Chancery, and another in the Exchequer—had been dismissed, two trials were had in the Exchequer, upon several issues directed by the Court, upon which two several sums of £95 costs were taxed to be paid by Petitioner. William Fenton, the principal plaintiff, with several others (who had disbursed all or most of the money in the suits) having applied to Petitioner for a final agreement, Petitioner paid them the two several sums of £95, and obtained discharges therefor. Notwithstanding this, one George Tyler, named a plaintiff, and others (who expended little or no money in the suits) obtained an order in the Exchequer against Petitioner to pay the one £95 then and there, and the other £95 on the last day of term, or in default to be committed to the Fleet. Petitioner brought his bill in Chancery to be relieved against this double payment, but the Court refused to interfere. Prays to be heard before their Lordships and that meanwhile all proceedings may be stayed.

Annexed:—

(a) 6 Dec. Answer of George Tyler and other tenants of the Manor of Wem. The Appeal is from an interlocutory order in Chancery for costs only, Respondents' pleas to Petitioner's amended bill being yet unargued. The Appellant, finding Felton displeased with Respondents for having employed another agent, being unable to defray his extravagant expenses, obtained a fraudulent release from him, by means of fair promises, contrary to the trust reposed in him by the rest of the tenants, who have paid Felton £1,400 for his expenses, for which he refuses to render an account. The Appeal is merely to weary out Respondents, who have lost some £23,000 in the late fire at Wem. Appellant has his proper remedy against Felton at common law; though in fact he never actually paid the two sums of £95 to Felton at all, but took the release as a consideration for enfranchising his copyhold estate. As to releases from other of the Respondents, they were gained, if at all, from indigent tenants, who were forced

to seal them to avoid imprisonment for debt, and are in no way binding on the rest. Pray that the Appeal may be dismissed with costs.

(b) 8 Dec. Petition of Appellant for ten days further time for hearing, Respondents' answer being so long. [The House dismissed the Appeal as being from an interlocutory order].

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

QUERIES.

NATURAL TUNNEL NEAR OSWESTRY.—The Ordnance Map for the Oswestry District shows a "Natural Tunnel" behind Park Hall. I have lived at Oswestry for over a quarter of a century and never heard of this natural curiosity. Can anyone throw some light upon it, and, if there is such a tunnel, describe it?

W.O.

HISTORY OF WALES.—Dr Jones's History of Wales has been mentioned several times in *Bye-Gones* lately. It would be useful and interesting to know which is the best History of Wales. I am afraid there is not one which can be reckoned as a work of the first rank; but which is the most trustworthy and complete?

BONWM.

ARCHDEACON EDMUND PRYS.—I was engaged some weeks ago in a search for information respecting Ffoulk Prys, son of the Archdeacon, and looking into Rowlands's volume upon *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry*, I noticed a reference made there to an edition of the Welsh Prayer Book supposed to have been published in, or about the year, 1621. I apprehend that this particular book formed a part of a larger volume, containing the Church Service, the Psalms for the month, and Prys's version of the last named in metre, and that each part had a separate title page. I happen to possess the two last, in separate black letter, small quarto volumes, and I copy the title pages of each as they lie before me.

(a) Psalman Dafydd o'r vn Cyfieithiad a'r Bibl Cyffredin, Iaco v. 13. A oes neb yn esmwyth arno? Caned Psalman, Anno 1621.

(b) Llyfr y Psalman, wedi ev Gyfieithv a'i Gyfansoddi ar Fesur Cerdd, yn Gymraeg. Drwy waith Edmwnd Prys Archdiacon Meirionydd (***) A'i Printio yn Llvndain 1621.

I possess another edition of the last named, in black letter, small quarto, printed in London in the year 1638. The late Edward Parry, of Chester, called it *the first edition*, meaning thereby, I apprehend, that it was first published, as a separate and distinct work, in that year. Mr Roderick Hughes, of Diserth (living 1640) wrote the following note upon the fly leaf of the volume—"Archdeacon Price died before the year 1623. He was instituted (Archdeacon) Nov. 5, 1576. He was also rector of Festiniog, March 14, 1572, and was buried at Maentwrog, a chapel belonging to Festiniog, but without any monument erected to perpetuate his memory." I was paying a visit to my old friend, the Rev. Henry Parry, of Llanasa, in the year 1835, and carried the volume with me to shew him, whereupon he added this note to Mr Hughes's—"He was also Canon Arthur Bulkeley of St. Asaph. He was sixth according to Willis—Canonia Secunda. These canonries were called after the first incumbents in the reign of Henry 8th. H.P." These small remembrances of a good, and a notable man, have

their value, and I have copied them accordingly. But they do not help me in the one object I have in view, and I want to see if any of your correspondents can do so, further than is done, by Mr Williams in his *Eminent Welshmen* (who, by the way, says the Archdeacon died in 1624) when he says—"Towc Prys, a poet, who flourished between 1600 and 1640, was the son of Edmund Price, Archdeacon of Meirioneth, and resided at Tyddyn Du in the parish of Maentwrog. He was also Vicar of Clynog in Caernarvonshire. Some of his compositions are preserved in manuscript." Is anything more known of him? MENTMORE.

REPLIES.

SQUILVER HILL LEGEND (April 27, 1887).—The Squilver is in the mountainous parish of Shelve, and the Roveries in that of Lydham, both close to the Montgomeryshire border of Shropshire. Possibly the legend derives some significance from the fact that a strip of Wales intrudes itself into our county here, and nearly intervenes between these two places. R.E.D.

Shrewsbury.

SHROPSHIRE LITERATURE (August 31, 1887). The column of *Bye-Gones* for August 31st was quite a literary and biographical one. I may state that the volume mentioned by W.O., "An Old Shropshire Oak," by the late J. W. Warter, was issued in two vols., and published at 28s. Second-hand copies can now be procured for about 16s 6d. E.P.

Brecknock.

PERSONAL PROPERTY IN WALES.—CUSTOM RELATING THERETO (August 31, 1887).—In reply to GAERFAWR's question, the custom declared illegal by 7-8 William and Mary, cap. 38, was one of a very ancient character, and, like a good many other Welsh customs, is lost in antiquity, although in this particular case, I think the custom had both rhyme and reason in it. It at all events seems to have been a very equitable custom. It was to the effect that the widows and younger children of persons dying in the Principality were entitled to a certain portion of the goods and chattels of their late husbands or fathers, called "her or their reasonable part," notwithstanding any previous disposal thereof by will or deed, and notwithstanding a competent jointure had been made by settlement. By the Act of William and Mary the widows, children, and other relations of the testator are held barred from any claim on his personal estate, otherwise than as provided by will. EDWIN POOLE.

Brecknock.

CURRENT NOTES.

The next volume of Mr Elliot Stock's popular county histories will be the "History of Warwickshire," by Mr Sam. Timmins.

Mr Titus Lewis, F.S.A., of St. Quintan's, Llanblethian, well known for the great interest he took in Welsh literature and antiquities, died a few days ago, in his sixty-sixth year.

The excavations at Strata Florida Abbey will be recommenced in a short time. A considerable sum is required for the completion of the work. The Marquis of Bute has contributed £21 towards the excavation fund.

We regret to record the death of the Hon. and Rev. Edward Hanbury Tracy. The honourable and reverend gentleman, who died on Tuesday, Sept. 13th, was the youngest son of Charles, first Lord Sudeley, and was born on Dec. 6th, 1812.

The death is announced of Mr Hugh Hughes, Glynpadarn, for many years treasurer to the Aberystwyth Corporation and clerk to the Aberystwyth Board of Guardians. He took a prominent part in the management of many private companies. Mr Hughes was in his eightieth year.

Sir James Picton and Sir Henry Dryden had an interview with the Chester Town Council on Wednesday, upon the subject of the recent excavations and discoveries of Roman remains there, and, upon the recommendation of the Improvement Committee, it was agreed that the remains lately discovered in the repair of the walls near the Phoenix tower be properly labelled and presented to the trustees of the Grosvenor Museum. A resolution was also carried authorising such further explorations as the Improvement Committee might sanction.

The new church of Holy Trinity, Bicton, was consecrated on Friday by the Bishop of Lichfield. The new church at Bicton has been built to take the place of an inconvenient brick church erected in the last century; this old church, standing at some distance from the new structure, has been left intact, and, beyond being interesting as a specimen of the style prevailing as regards church arrangement in the last century, possesses no architectural interest. The new church, which provides accommodation for 250 people, is situated on a fresh site presented by Colonel Wingfield, adjoining a newly-consecrated burial ground, and is built in the fourteenth century style. There is a tower situated at the south-east end of church, 75 feet high, whence a fine view of the surrounding country can be seen. The architect is Mr A. E. Lloyd Oswell, A.R.I.B.A., of Shrewsbury. A stained glass window, placed in the west window of the aisle, was given by Miss Emily Cotes, whose nieces presented the handsome font, entirely composed of alabaster.

THE WELSH LANGUAGE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Mr W. Williams, chief inspector of schools for the Welsh district, gives in his annual report the opinions of two of his colleagues, the Rev. S. Pryce, Carmarthen district, and Mr W. Edwards of the Merthyr Tydvil district, upon the question of the utilization of the Welsh language in elementary schools. Mr Pryce is opposed to the movement, but suggests that, if a concession is thought necessary, the translation of a short Welsh story or letter into English might be accepted instead of composition in Standards V. and VI. Mr Edwards, on the other hand, is strongly in favour of the movement, and adduces the following reasons:—(1.) That Welsh is the constant home language of a very large proportion of the inhabitants of Wales, besides being the language of many newspapers and periodicals. (2.) That it is expedient that Welsh should be taught grammatically as long as it retains its position as the language of the majority. (3.) That many children who pass through the elementary schools will in after life fill positions in which a good grammatical knowledge of Welsh is extremely desirable, if not absolutely indispensable. (4.) That bilingual instruction is always useful in improving the faculties of thought and expression, through the presentation of one idea in two different modes. By its means also the acquisition of a third language is rendered easier. (5.) That the spread of English will not be retarded by the

teaching of Welsh. The latter will only be taught in connection with the former. Translations will be required not only from English into Welsh, but also from Welsh into English. Welsh children at present rarely have the power of composing in English. Translation is at once an aid and an exercise in composition. (6.) That in Scotland, in Ireland, and in various continental countries the necessity of bi-lingual instruction is conceded, and the advantages which accrue from it, e.g., in Switzerland, are acknowledged to be considerable. (7.) That as the subject is optional there is no danger of its being introduced against the wishes of the parents. (8.) That the machinery for teaching Welsh already exists, although a little preparation may be required. Teachers of Welsh nationality are, as a matter of fact, already chosen in preference to English teachers for service in Welsh schools. If Welsh teaching is required in schools conducted by Englishmen, it will be easy to provide the special instruction without unsettling the staff. (9.) The question of practicability will settle itself, if experiments are allowed to be made without unnecessary restrictions.

THE CELTIC ELEMENT IN THE BRITISH POPULATION.

Professor Sayce, M.A., in his address as president of the Anthropological Section of the British Association, said—The determination of the several racial elements in these islands is practically difficult on account of the intermixture of population, and nowhere is the difficulty greater than in the case of the Celtic portion of the community. Long before the Roman conquest the intrusive Aryan Celt had been intermarrying with the older inhabitants of the country, who doubtless belonged to more than one race, the result being that the so-called Celtic race is an amalgamation of races differing physiologically but dominated by a common moral and intellectual character—the consequence of subjection for a long series of generations to the same conditions of life. It has become a commonplace of ethnology that the so-called Celtic race includes not only the fair complexioned Aryan Celt, but also the “black Celt,” or Iberian with dark skin, black hair and eyes, and small limbs. The subject, however, is much more complex than this simple division would imply. We have seen that under the “red Celt” are included two distinct varieties; the “black Celt” is equally irreducible to a single type, while the fact that the two types of “red” and “black” recur in the same family—my own, for example—not only indicates their long-continued intermixture, but suggests the existence of intermediate varieties. The limitations and relations of dolichocephalism and brachycephalism within the race also need further investigation. I hope that this meeting, held as it is on the borders of what is still a distinctively Celtic country, may help to settle these and similar problems. Meanwhile I will conclude this address, which has already extended to an inordinate length, by directing your attention to two lines of evidence which have an important bearing on the question of the extent to which the Celtic element enters into the existing British population. A few years ago it was the fashion to assert that the English people were mainly Teutonic in origin, and that the older British population had been exterminated in the protracted struggle it carried on with the heathen hordes of Anglo-Saxon invaders. The statement in the “Saxon Chronicle” was quoted that the garrison of Anderida, or Pevensey, when captured by the Saxons in A.D. 491, was all put to the sword. But it is obvious that the fact would not have been singled out for special mention had it not been exceptional, while it is equally obvious that invaders who came by sea can hardly have brought their wives and

children with them, and must have sought for both wives and slaves in the natives of the island. Mr Coote, in his “Romans of Britain,” and Mr Seebohm, in his “English Village Community,” have pointed out the continuity of laws and customs and territorial rights between the Roman and the Saxon eras, presupposing a continuity of population, and anthropologists have insisted that the survival of early racial types in all parts of the country cannot be accounted for by the settlement of the Bretons who followed William the Conqueror or of the Welsh who came into England when the penal laws against them were repealed by Henry VIII. But the advocates of the theory of extermination had always one argument which seemed to them unanswerable, and which, indeed, was the origin of their theory. The language of the Anglo-Saxons contains scarcely any words borrowed from Celtic. Such a fact was held to be inexplicable except on the hypothesis that the speakers of the Celtic dialects were all exterminated before any intercourse was possible between them and the invading Teuton. But I think I can show that the fact admits of quite another explanation. Roman Britain was in the Condition of Roman Gaul; it was a Roman province; so thoroughly Romanized, indeed, that before the end of the first century, according to Tacitus (“Agric.” 18-21), even the inhabitants of North Wales had adopted the Roman dress and the Roman habits of luxury. After four centuries of Roman domination it is not likely, under these circumstances, that the dialects of the British tribes would have resisted the encroachment of the Latin language any more than did the dialects of Gaul. The language, not only of government and law, but also of trade and military service, was Latin, while the slaves and servants who cultivated the soil were bound to understand the language of their masters. Moreover, Britain was a military colony; the natives were drafted into the army, and there, perforce, had to speak Latin. If Latin had not been the language of the country at the time the Romans left it, the fact would have been little short of a miracle. That it was so is certified by more than one piece of evidence. The inscriptions which have survived from the period of the Roman occupation are numerous; with the exception of three or four Greek ones, they are all in Latin. Of a Celtic language or dialect there is no trace. When the Romans had departed, and the inhabitants of Wales and Cornwall had been cut off from intercourse with the civilized world, Latin was still the ordinary language of the mortuary texts. It is only gradually that Celtic oghams take their place by the side of the Roman characters. When St. Patrick writes a letter to the Welsh Prince of Cardiganshire, addressed not only to him but to his people as well, it is in the Latin language; when St. Germanus crosses into Britain to settle a theological controversy, and leads the people to victory against the Saxon invader, he has no difficulty in being understood; and the proper names of the British leaders continue to be Roman long after the departure of the Roman legions. What clinches the matter, however, is the positive statement of Gildas, the British writer, the solitary witness who has survived to us from the dark period of heathen invasion. He asserts that the ships called “keels” by the Saxons were called *longæ naves* “in our language” (“*nostra lingua*”). In the middle of the sixth century, therefore, Latin was still the language of the Celt south of the Roman Wall. Such being the case, it is not Celtic but Latin words that we must expect to have been borrowed by Anglo-Saxon, if the British population, instead of being exterminated, lived under and by the side of their Teutonic invaders. Now, these borrowed Latin words exist in plenty. They have come not only from the speech of the towns, but also from the speech of the country, proving that the country popu-

lation must have used Latin like the inhabitants of the towns. In an interesting little book by Professor Earl on the Anglo-Saxon names of plants a list is given of the names of trees and vegetables that have been taken from a Latin source. Where the tree or the vegetable was one with which the invaders had not been acquainted in their original home the name they gave to it was a Latin one, like the cherry or cerasus, the box or buxus, the fennel or feneculum, the mallow or malva, the poppy or papaver, the radish or radix. Such names they could have heard only from the serfs who tilled the ground for their new lords, not from the traders and soldiers of the cities. It is much the same when we turn to the names of agricultural implements, which imply a higher order of culture than the simple plough or mattock, the name of which last, however, is itself of Celtic origin. Thus the coulter is the Latin culter, the sickle is the Latin secula. That other agricultural implements bore Teutonic names proves merely that the Saxons and Angles were already acquainted with them before they had quitted their primitive seats. The philological argument has thus been cut away from under the feet of the advocates of the theory of extermination, and shown to tell precisely the contrary tale. It has disappeared like the philological argument by which the theory of the origin of the Aryans in Asia was once supposed to be supported. But there still remains one difficulty in our path. This is the fact that the languages spoken in Wales, and till recently in Cornwall, are Celtic and not Latin. If Latin had been the language of the Celtic population of southern Britain when the Romans left the island, how is it that where the Celtic population still retains a language of its own that language is Celtic? The answer to this question is to be found in history and tradition. Up to the sixth century the Teutonic invaders gained slowly but steadily upon the resisting Britons. They forced their way to the frontiers of what is now Wales, and there their further course was checked. The period when this took place is the period when Welsh literature first begins. But it begins, not in Wales, but in Strathclyde, or south-western Scotland, to the north of the Roman Wall. Its first records relate to battles that took place in the neighbourhood of Carlisle. From thence its bards and heroes moved southwards into North Wales. Tradition commemorated the event as the arrival in Wales of "Cunedda's men." The sons of Cunedda founded the lines of princes who subsequently ruled in Wales, and the old genealogies mark the event by suddenly substituting princes with Welsh names for princes with Latin names. The rude Celtic tribes of Strathclyde came to the assistance of their more cultured brethren in the south, checking the further progress of the foreigner and imposing their domination and language upon the older population of the country. It is probable that the disappearance of Latin was further aided not only by the destruction of the cities and the increasing barbarism of the people, but also by the settlement of Irish colonies, more especially in South Wales. At all events, the ruin of cities like Caerleon and Caerwent must be ascribed to Irish marauders. We can now explain why it is not only that Wales speaks Welsh and not Latin, but also why a part of the country, which, according to Professor Rhys, was mostly peopled by Gaelic tribes before the Roman conquest, speaks Cymric and not Gaelic. As for Cornish, its affinities are with Breton; and since history knows of frequent intercourse between Cornwall and Brittany in the age that followed the departure of the Romans, we may see in the Cornish dialect the traces of Breton influence. The arrival of "Cunedda's men" and the re-Celtization of Wales lead me to the second line of evidence, to which I have alluded above. The bearing of the costume of a people upon their ethnography is a

matter which has been much neglected. But there are few things about which a population—more especially in an early stage of society—is so conservative as in the matter of dress. When we find the Egyptian sculptor representing the Hittites of the warm plains of Palestine clad in the snow-shoes of the mountaineer we are justified in concluding that they must have descended from the ranges of the Taurus, where the bulk of their brethren continued to live, just as the similar shoes with turned-up ends which the Turks have introduced among the upper classes of Syria, Egypt, and northern Africa, point to the northern origin of the Turks themselves. Such shoes are utterly unsuited for walking in over a country covered with grass, brushwood, or even stones; they are, on the contrary, admirably adapted for walking on snow. Now, the dress of Celtic Gaul and of southern Britain, also, when the Romans first became acquainted with it, was the same as the dress which "linguistic palæontology" teaches us had been worn by the primitive Aryans in their first home. One of its chief constituents were the braccæ, or trousers, which accordingly became to the Roman the symbol of the barbarian. We learn, however, from sculptures and other works of art that before the retirement of the Romans from the northern part of Europe they had adopted this article of clothing, at all events during the winter months. That the natives of southern Britain continued to wear it after their separation from Rome is clear from a statement of Gildas ("Hist., 19"), in which he refers in no flattering terms to the kilt of the Pict and the Scot. Yet from within a century after the time of Gildas there are indications that the northern kilt which he regards as so strange and curious had become the common garb of Wales. When we come down to the 12th century we find that it is the national costume. Giraldus Cambrensis gives us a description of the Welsh dress in his own time, from which we learn that it consisted simply of a tunic and plaid. It was not until the age of the Tudors, according to Llyud, the Welsh historian of the reign of Elizabeth, that the Welsh exchanged their own for the English dress. The Welsh who served in the army of Edward II. at Bannockburn were remarked even by the Lowland Scotch for the scantiness of their attire, and we have evidence that it was the same a century later. If we turn to Ireland we find that in the days of Spenser, and later, the national costume of the Irish was the same as that of the Welsh and the Highland Scotch. The knee-breeches and sword-coat which characterize the typical Irishman in the comic papers are survivals of the dress worn by the English at the time when it was adopted in Ireland. The Highland dress, therefore, was once worn not only in the Scotch Highlands and in Ireland, but also in Wales. It characterized the Celtic parts of Britain with the exception of Cornwall and Devonshire. Yet we have seen that up to the middle of the 6th century, at the period when Latin was still the language of the fellow countrymen of Gildas, and when "Cunedda's men" had not as yet imposed their domination upon Wales, the old Celtic dress with trousers must have been the one in common use. Now, we can easily understand how a dress of the kind could have been replaced by the kilt in warm countries like Italy and Greece; what is not easily conceivable is that such a dress could have been replaced by the kilt in the cold regions of the north. In warm climates a lighter form of clothing is readily adopted; in cold climates the converse is the case. I see, consequently, but one solution of the problem before us. On the one hand there was the distinctive Celtic dress of the Roman age, which was the same as the dress of the primitive Aryan, and was worn alike by the Celts of Gaul and Britain and the Teutons of Germany; on the other hand there was the scantier and colder dress

which originally characterized the coldest part of Britain and subsequently mediæval Wales also. Must we not infer, in the first place, that the aboriginal population of Caledonia and Ireland was not Celtic—or at least not Aryan Celtic; and, secondly, that the dominant class in Wales after the 6th century came from that northern portion of the Island where the kilt was worn? Both inferences, at all events, agree with the conclusions which ethnologists and historians have arrived at upon other grounds. Perhaps what I have been saying will show that even a subject like the history of dress will yield more results to ethnological study than is usually supposed. It will be another illustration of the fact that the student of humanity cannot afford to neglect any department of research which has to do with the life of man, however widely removed it may seem to be from science and scientific methods of inquiry. “Homo sum; humani nihil a me alienum puto.”

SEPTEMBER 28, 1837.

NOTES.

SHROPSHIRE AND THE POPISH PLOT (Sep. 14, 1887).—“G.H.B.” seems to have overlooked the list of Papists in Shropshire, prepared for the purposes of “An Act (1680) for the better securing of the present peace of this kingdom by removing several principal persons of the Popish religion from their respective habitations, and confining them to other parts and places within this kingdom, and for disarming all Papists.” The original list contained ninety three names, and the following were selected for the Bill:—

Thomas Talbot, of Longford, Esq.
Sir Walter Blunt, of Mortimers Cleobury (sometimes living in Worcestershire).

Edward Hunt, of Moreton, Gent.
Edward Harnadge, of Norbury, Esq.*
William Pickering, of Stanton Lacy, Gent.
Edward Revell, of Shiffnal, Gent.
William Revell, Gent.

— Cleeton, of Lee Hall, Gent.
— Fox, of Hurst, Gent.

W.O.

GAOL FILES.—LAND GRABBING IN WALES AND THE BORDERS.—In the second of the two Montgomery Gaol Files to which I referred on a recent occasion there is a set of quaintly worded depositions, preceded by a document which runs:—

A BRIEF—of wytnesses,—touching the burnnyng of the house and barne of Richard Lloyd of Sweney in the county of Salop, supposed to have bene burnt by John ap John, taylor, the second day of October last (1587) at night, taken before John Owen Vaughan and Edd Pryce Esquiers—by vertue of a Commission.

The offence which Richard Lloyd had committed was that he had taken a few acres of land which had been previously in the occupation of the tailor. The depositions doubtless would explain why suspicion had been directed toward John ap John. If the series of Gaol Files be perfect, there is from six to seven hundred sets relating to Montgomeryshire, and probably each of the other Welsh counties. They are tied up in bundles; exactly seven-twentieths of those relating to Mont-

gomeryshire have not yet been officially examined. Among the documents filed are lists of Magistrates, Coroners, Grand and Second Juries, Mayors and Bailiffs of towns, and other public officers, the original depositions of witnesses, Bills of Indictments, Coroner's Inquisitions, Presentments, &c., &c. Considerable use has already been made of those relating to Montgomeryshire, but there is a vast store remaining to be drawn upon. PEARMAIN.

QUERIES.

SQUILVER HILL LEGEND (April 27, Sep. 21, 1887).—In Mr Watts's paper on “A Shropshire Picirite,” read at the meeting of the British Association, I see the place-name Dysgwylfa mentioned in connection with Shelve. “R.E.D.” (Sep. 21, 1887) says the Squilver Hill is in the parish of Shelve. Is not Squilver Hill a corruption of the Welsh Dysgwylfa? BONWM.

HARVEST CUSTOMS.—In the course of a correspondence on Harvest Customs now going on in the newspapers the following quotation is given from Hartshorne's “Salopia Antiqua:—

In the south-eastern part of Shropshire the last few stalks of wheat are left standing; all the reapers throw their sickles, and he who cuts them off cries, “I have her; I have her; I have her!” The latest farmer in the neighbourhood, whose reapers cannot therefore send “her” to any other person, is said to “keep her all the winter.” This rural ceremony evidently refers to the time when, our country lying all open in common fields, and the corn consequently exposed to the depredations of the wild mares, the season at which it was secured from their ravages was a time of rejoicing, and of exulting over a tardier neighbour.

I have not *Hartshorne* to refer to, but this is apparently an incomplete quotation, and an extract from Miss Burne's “Shropshire Folk-Lore,” which I give, will explain it. Miss Burne, in her interesting description of harvest customs, says a custom of “Cutting the Neck” at the end of reaping, and “Crying the Mare” at the end of harvest, have been confounded by some writers, and indeed, in some cases, were actually blended together. Miss Burne thus describes “Cutting the Neck”:—

The neck, or “Gonder's neck,” was a group of perhaps twenty ears of corn, left standing and knotted together in the middle of the field when all the rest was “down.” The men, standing at from ten to twenty paces distance, threw their sickles at it in turn, the leading reaper first, and the rest in order due. Whoever succeeded in cutting off the neck was reckoned the “best mon,” and carried it home in triumph to the master's wife, expecting an extra “mug o' drink” as his reward. The “Missis,” who received this offering, was supposed to keep it in the house “for good luck” until the next harvest-time came round. Mr Robert Dayus, Longnor, dates the decline of this custom about 1856.

And “Crying the Mare” is thus described:—

Crying, calling, or skouting the mare, is a ceremony performed by the men of that farm which is the first in any parish or district to finish the harvest. The object of it is to make known their own prowess, and to taunt the laggards by a pretended offer of the “owd mar” to help out their “chem” (team). All the men assemble (the wooden

* Struck through, and noted in margin “Left out 13 Dec. at th Prince's motion.”

harvest-bottle being of course one of the company) in the stackyard, or—better—on the highest ground on the farm, and there shout the following dialogue, preceding it by a grand "Hip, hip, hip, hurrah!"—

"I 'ave 'er, I 'ave 'er, I 'ave 'er!"

"Whad 'ast thee, whad 'ast thee, whad 'ast the?"

"A mar! a mar! a mar!"

"Whose is 'er, whose is 'er, whose is 'er?"

"Maister A.'s, Maister A.'s, Maister A.'s" (naming the farmer whose harvest is finished).

"Weer sha't the' send 'er? weer sha't the' send 'er? weer sha't the' send 'er?"

"To Maister B.'s, to Maister B.'s, to Maister B.'s" (naming one whose harvest is *not* finished).

"Uth a hip, hip, hip, hurrah!" (is chorus).

It would be interesting to know whether these or similar harvest customs are still kept up in Shropshire or Wales; or whether any of your readers remember them. May I ask for a record of Harvest Customs on either side of the Border, now that we are employed in giving thanks for the harvest? W.O.

REPLIES.

ELIHU YALE (Sep. 14, 1887).—In reply to "J.E.G.," Elihu Yale lies buried in Wrexham Churchyard, where there is a curious inscription on his tombstone. A good deal of information concerning this Mr. Yale will be found in Palmer's "History of Wrexham Church," published by Messrs. Woodall, Minshall, and Thomas, at the Wrexham Office of the *Oswestry Advertiser*. W.T.W.

A HISTORY OF WALES.—THE MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE WELSH SIXTY YEARS AGO (Aug. 10, 31, Sep. 14, 1887):—

The manners and customs of the Welsh are ancient and not affected from novelty. The dress of the higher order is like the English; but the Welsh peasant vests himself from economy; for the cloth and flannel he wears have been spun by his own family, and, in general, from materials of his own growth; the costume from these homely manufactures is visible in the clothes of the milkmen, (1) and gardening girls, in the streets, and vicinity of London.

The people of the Principality are clean and industrious; there is, however, in the nature of a Welshman such a hurricane of manner, and want of method, that he does nothing well; for his mind is over anxious, diverted from one labour to another, and hence everything is incomplete, and leaves the appearance of confusion and negligence.

The amusements of the natives, have, of late years, been less various, from an assumed policy of Government, that the peace of the empire depends on the discontinuance of public sports and pastimes; the game laws, which give to certain persons a property in the birds of the air, and require a qualification for diversions of the field, the Inclosure Acts, which have deprived the people of places for athletic exercises, and the severity of the bishops in shutting the public out of the churchyards, have thrown over the mind of the peasant a gloominess that will produce malevolence, and terminate in the transgression of the law.

(1) It is somewhat singular, but it is stated that the bulk of the retail trade in milk in London now is in the hands of Welshmen.

The common exercises of the Welsh are running, leaping, swimming, wrestling, throwing the bar, dancing, hunting, fishing; and playing at fives against the church or tower; and they constitute the joy of youth and the admiration of old age.

The convivial amusements are singing and versification. In these favourite exercises the performers are of humble merit; the singing is mere roar and squeak; and the poetical effusions are nonsense, vested in the rags of language; and always slanderous; because the mind of the bard is not fertile in the production of topics. The Welsh character is the echo of natural feeling and acts from instantaneous motives; it has more of fortitude and charity, virtues which emanate directly from the heart, than of prudence and temperance, which are the creatures of habit, and selections of the mind; its main object is to answer the purpose of human being by self-preservation and purity of conduct: for the Welshman never commits suicide, nor does he ever fall a victim to the deviations of affection: in hospitality he looks at the exigence of the moment, and makes no enquiry into the character of the person, whether he be a villain or a vagabond, an outlaw or a spendthrift; and, in the distribution of charity, he never throws his guinea into the printed list of subscriptions, but puts his mite privately into the hand of indigence.

The Welshman from his isolated course of life, is not a model of prudence, because his inexperience in the wiles of mankind affords no data for induction; nor is he an example of temperance, for the limited extent of his means and the simplicity of his mode of living, debar him from the enjoyment of luxuries and from devotions to excess.

The general pursuit of the Welsh is agriculture; but without approximation to excellence, for the cattle are subjected to privations, and the soil to ingratitude.

Trade and commerce are carried on with great spirit in the wealthier counties of Glamorgan, Carmarthen, Pembroke and Anglesey; but in the inland and poorer parts, the country gentleman is above bringing his sons up to business, and makes pride of necessity, because he has not the means of advancing them a capital.

The fine arts are strangers to the principality; and the Welshman seldom professes the buskin, or the use of the mallet, the graver, or the chisel; but although deficient in taste he excels in duties and in intellect; no part of the Empire, of the like amount of population, has produced so many soldiers, sailors, professional men, and writers on every topic of literature and science.

The battle of Maida was a Cambrian labour, the most distinguished officers at Waterloo where all fought, and some fell, were the sons of Wales; the English navy has always more than a proportionate number of Welsh admirals and captains; the mitre, at all times, graces the head of a Cambrian; in medicine the names of the Ancient Britons are always on the rolls of the College of Physicians; in jurisprudence, Wales has always produced more than her proportion of talent; and in literature and science the list of worthies would run through the alphabet; but as an enumeration would be tedious, the adduction of one name will justify the assertion of more than proportionate talent, and that name is Abraham Rees."

Such was Dr. Jones's opinion of his fellow countrymen. A KELT.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Chester Fine Art Exhibition, which has been open nearly two months, closed on Saturday.

Two handsome stained glass windows have been placed in the Court Room of the Flint Town Hall. One is the

gift of Mr J. K. Huntley, mayor, and the other of Mr William Hull, of Oakenholt.

It will be remembered (says the *Cambrian News*) that at Aberystwyth an attempt was made to get up a fund to celebrate the Queen's jubilee. Expenses amounting to £3 5s were incurred, and this small amount has not been raised.

The *Calendar* of the University College for North Wales for 1887-8 shows the growing prosperity of the College. The first session opened with 58 students, the second with 90, the third with 127. We also see with pleasure that the Women's Hall has to be enlarged "in consequence of the rapid growth in the number of the inmates," and the new building is expected to be ready shortly.

There were great rejoicings at Dolgelley last week upon the occasion of the coming of age of Mr Robert Vaughan, son of Mr John Vaughan, of Nannau. Among the presentations made to him were an illuminated address and a solid silver salver, weighing 170 ounces. The town was everywhere gaily decorated with flags and bunting, and cannon were booming from the hill-sides throughout the day. Rural sports were held on the green in the afternoon, after which a dinner was given. There was a display of fireworks in the evening.

The interment of Lady Houghton took place on Saturday, in a vault which had been specially consecrated by the Bishop of Chester, in Barthomley churchyard, which is adjacent to Crewe Hall. Among those who attended were Lord Houghton, Lord Crewe, and many members of the family. Lady Londonderry was among those who sent floral wreaths. The coffin bore the inscription—"Sybil Marcia, Lady Houghton, born July 23, 1857; died September 19, 1887." A correspondent of a contemporary writes:—"The early and pathetic death of the beautiful Lady Houghton will be received with unfeigned regret in a wide and varied circle. She was a daughter of Sir Frederick and Lady Hermione Graham, granddaughter of the late Duchess of Somerset, who, born a Sheridan, was so famous when Lady Seymour as the 'Queen of Beauty' at the Eglinton tournament. From her grandmother Lady Houghton inherited in ample measure both the beauty and the wit which for many years made the name of Sheridan a synonym for social charm, and to these qualities she superadded a childlike grace, and a simplicity which were peculiarly her own. Lord Houghton was one of the lords-in-waiting in Mr Gladstone's last Administration, and, with his geniality, intelligence, and robust Liberalism, bears worthily the honoured name of his distinguished and lamented father. Lady Houghton died of scarlet fever caught from her children, whom she was nursing."

Mr Gomme continues his useful labours in the ample field of the "Gentleman's Magazine," and we have now received the second part of *Romano-British Remains*, published by Mr Elliot Stock in the "Gentleman's Magazine Library." We noticed "Romano-British Remains" in this column when the first part appeared, and gave some curious and interesting extracts connected with Shropshire. Wales is included in the present part, but the contributions from Wales are surprisingly few, considering its archaeological wealth. There is a short description of Conovium written as long ago as 1797, but seven pages contain all the communications from the Principality. Where, we wonder, are all the antiquarian objects mentioned in this volume to be found now! Some, we may fear, have been lost, but how many are deposited, as they ought to be, in public libraries or museums?

For example, there are the "small Roman pick and salmon spear," found in "an old Roman copper shaft" near Machynlleth, and in 1856 in the possession of Mr Weston of that town? And where is the "brazen shield of a circular form, embossed most curiously, circle within circle (being seven in number)," found at Caerhun? The second section of this volume is devoted to "Roman Roads and Stations," on which there has been an endless controversy, never probably to be settled. As Mr Gomme says in his preface, the contributions on this subject are not all presented to the reader for their value in determining the subject with which they ostensibly deal, but because the writers, in the course of their argument, often mention local discoveries which they have made. The first communication is on the Stations of Iters II., X., XI., and XII. of Antoninus, and Wroxeter, and the writer, Mr F. R. Carroll (1862) contends that Wroxeter is the site, not of Uriconium on Iter II., but of Bravinum on Iter XII. Finally we have Historical Notes on the Roman Invasion, including several contributions on Samian Ware, by Mr Chaffers, and others. In noticing the concluding volume of the series devoted to early archaeology, we may again remark upon the obvious advantages to the antiquary of having these records, made at the time, collected and arranged by Mr Gomme. The next volume of the Gentleman's Magazine Library is to be on Literary Curiosities and Notes, and will appeal to a wider circle of readers.

ST. OSWALD'S WELL, OSWESTRY.—This Well, which has in the past summer been subjected to some tinkering, has now been closed as a well. The old structure, happily, has not been interfered with, but the aperture has been bricked up for a foot or so and the remainder of the aperture is closed by means of a door. A pump has been fixed outside the door so that the water is still available.

OCTOBER 5, 1887.

NOTES.

FOLK LORE.—THE SEVENTH SON.—Within the last few months there was living at Morda a man named Jones, to whom many of his neighbours resorted, for the sake of his curative powers, because he is a seventh son. He says he has been quite troubled by the number of people who brought children afflicted with whooping cough to him, that he might take them on his knee and cure them. [See Miss Burne's "Shropshire Folk Lore" for information as to this superstition.] I shall be obliged if any readers will supply other examples of Folk Lore. H.W.

LARGE CHERRY TREE AT DOLGUOG, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—In front of this ancient house stands an old, very old, cherry tree. I lately took three measurements of it as follows:—At base, close to the ground, 15½ feet; at four feet from the ground, 6½ feet in circumference; the largest branch, where it joins the trunk, 2½ feet round. I was told the tree blossoms freely, but never produces cherries. It is said to be the site of the residence of Llywarch Hen where the old house stands. An old, roughly-built summer house in the woods behind the house, overhanging the Dovey, and commanding a magnificent view, is supposed to be the place where the bard composed his poems.

Southsea.

P.

THE CROSS, NEAR BUTTINGTON.—Apparently, within a comparatively recent period there was a cross standing somewhere on the north side of the Severn, between the town of Pool and that river, on the highway towards Buttington. Perhaps from the following "Presentment" its site may be localised:—"We present the Highway leading from Welshtown to the Cross, near Buttington. The inhabitants of the Townships of Gungrog Fawr and Vechan are liable." PEARMAIN.

MADAM PARRY, PANT-YR-ON, LLANELIDAN. This lady was strange in many ways, if tradition speaks truly. She came to church in a large yellow carriage, which was the admiration of all. She was religious and kind. Having heard of the great good done by Rowlands, Llangeitho, she invited him to come to preach in the North, and my informant, the present Parish Clerk of Llanelidan, near Ruthin, said that that gentleman complied with her request, and that she fitted up the stable for the occasion. It was said that she was a Catholic, but this the Parish Clerk emphatically denied, for she was a good church-goer to her death, he said, and she was, if anything, Methodistically inclined.

E. O.

DISRAELI AND SHREWSBURY.—The following is a copy of the original requisition which was sent to the late Lord Beaconsfield (then Mr. D'Israeli) inviting him to contest Shrewsbury in conjunction with Mr. Tomline. It is on parchment, and without date, but it must have been presented some time between the elections of 1837 and 1841:—

We, the undersigned electors of the borough of Shrewsbury, having seen it stated in the newspapers that R. A. Slaney, Esq., one of the representatives of this borough in Parliament, had, on the 17th May inst., presented to the House of Commons a petition from Shrewsbury in support of the measures proposed by the present Administration; and having been informed that Sir Richard Jenkins, G.C.B., intends to retire from the representation of this borough whenever the present Government shall be dissolved; here express our opinion that the present Administration and their proposed measures are alike inimical to the prosperity and peace of this great country; and we further hereby request that Benjamin D'Israeli, Esq., and George Tomline, Esq., will give us an opportunity of recording our determination to support the true Conservative and Monarchical principles of our glorious Constitution by offering themselves as candidates for the representation of this borough whenever a dissolution of the present Parliament shall take place, thus declaring our determination to secure their return to Parliament as our representatives by supporting them with our votes, and by using every other lawful means that shall be within our power.

The following signatures are in the handwriting of the gentlemen named, the rest, about 600, having evidently been copied:—Robert Burton, Benjn. H. Kennedy, W. E. Jeffreys, Charles Montgomery Campbell, Rice Wynn, W. Bayley, John Barker, T. Farmer Dukes, W. Henry Perry, W. Wyburgh How, W. R. Stokes, W. D. Muckleston, Edwd. Muckleston, jun., and W. S. Parry. The election (1841) resulted as follows:—Tomline, 793, D'Israeli, 785, Parry, Sir L. P. J., 605, Temple, 578. This was one of only two elections from 1832 until his

death in 1862 in which Mr Slaney did not contest the seat—and he always fought with success except in 1835. W.O.

MR. STANLEY LEIGHTON'S MSS. (Sep. 29, 1886).—Through the kindness of Mr Stanley Leighton, M.P., we are able to print extracts from the interesting MSS. at Sweeney Hall. The following are taken from a collection of MSS. by Mr Edward Lloyd of Llanforda (near Oswestry), who raised a troop of dragoons in the service of Charles I.:— Eo.

* MR. EDWARD LLOYD'S SERVICES TO THE KING.

The true Narrative of Capt. Edward Lloyd's actions & sufferings in & for his Matie's. service with ye Just state off his Arrears.

In ye Infancy of ye Late warrs, whilst his Matie. resided at Shrosbery, he gaue his Matie. all his plate & raysed a Troope of Dragoons, & armed them on his owne charge, advancing likewise a month's pay to eury soldier out of his owne purse, & served w'th them in p'son vnder the Com'and off Sr. Robert Howard, w'ch Com'ision bore date August the 20th, 1642.

Then beeing desirous to embrace all opportunitie, yt might promote his Matie's service, he proceeded to rayse a Troope of horse vnder the Lord Capell, & served w'th them, vntill

The Lord Capell surrendred his Com'and in those p'ts, to ye Lord Byron, & his Ragiment off horse to Col Trevor, he continued still in ye said Regiment & was w'th it at ye fatal Battalles of Yorke & Montgomery, thence to Ruithin, till it was com'anded to the West, to serue in the Life-guard to his Matie. that now is, then Prince of Wales, for w'ch hono'ble com'and he hath his Com'ission ex'ant, where he continued till the dismal disbanding at Truro March ye 20th, 1645.

Thus it is evident, that as nonn weare earlier in their actions, so nonn continued longer in ye service of, or sufferings for, the Royal Cause, w'ch is likewise apparent, by his estate beeing five years vnder sequestration, the hard vsage of him in his Compositio', the enemies' malicious burning of his howses, kills & maltroomes, & ye plunder of his whole p'sonal estate, to a very considerable valew.ouer & aboue all this, the enemies malice speaks yet further for him, in his frequent imprisonments, at Least a dozen times, but once more especially, beeing fetchd from his house to ye gatehouse, Westminster, for designing the killing of Bradshaw for murdering of his master, nor did their malice rest only on him, but extended it selfe to all his Relations, his wife was likewise questiond for her life & hardlie escaped, a friend of hers hanged, & a maid servant whipt to death for their fidelitie to his Matie. in endeavoring to restore the garrison off Oswalstree to their pristine Loyalty.

And last of all, his readiness to promote ye Royal Cause, in ye worst of times, was not a Little remarkable, beeing allwayes ready to ioyne in all plots & engagements for ye restoration off his Matie. now in Beeing, w'ch may be seene by his Com'ission, received from ye Lord Byron, to rayse & com'and a Regiment of horse, his forwardness to rise w'th Sr. Thom : Harries & others, And in Sr. George Booths Buisnes he raysed a Troope off horse, (he himselfe beeing then prisoner in Salop) w'ch he put his eldest son to Com'and, And that had proved his & his sonns final ruine,

* The head lines are not in the original, with the exception of the one on p. 416.

iff his Matie. had not been, by Gods extraordinarie mercy,
soe miraculously restored.

	£	s.	d.
The raising of 2 troops of horse, w'th his advance money to his men, cost.....	800	0	0
his pay for a Capt. of horse for 3 years & 7 months amounts to.....	2423	14	6
The Damages of sequestration of his estate for 5 years amounts to, at Least.....	2000	0	0
his composition & attendance, to.....	400	0	0
The burning of his howses, kills & malting roomes, endamaged him.....	1000	0	0
The plunder of his p'sonal estate.....	600	0	0
he paid for Decimation.....	57	0	0
spent in his several imprisonments, at Lon- don, Salop, Bridgenorth, &c., at Least.....	400	0	0
expended & suffered in & for Sr. Goerg Booths buisnesbetwixt him & his sonn forced to flie into Ireland to secure himselfe	400	0	0

Sum tot..... £ s. d.
8080 14 6

This Narratue and account is approved
by vs whose names are subscribed.

[The names are not given.]

The following letter is on the same subject:—

Hono^red Cozin,—

Though my sadd condicon hathe been so well
knowne unto you: that I: need not giue you any further
cognizance thereof, yett the present sadder Estate wherein
I: am, reinforces a further addresse: to acquaint you
howe my father hathe taken away that smalle allowance
w'ch hee was pleased formerly to afford mee for a liuely-
hood, & doth nott allowe mee anything at all towards a
substance. In tender considerac'on whereof, & of the
neere relac'on of kindered betwixt vs, I: make bould to
intreate yo'r fauor in my behalfe, & that you will please
to bee assistant vnto mee: as you are a co'missioner for
the releefe of the Indigent Loyall officers, whereof: I
conceave (my present condic'on considered) non can bee
more capable then myselfe, I: haue gotten a certificat
vnder the handes & seales of fve of the co'missioners of
ou'e county of Sallop, w'ch I: haue desired the bearer
hereof to present vnto you, beseeching you to improve yo'e
intrest, & to vse yo'e best indeuo's in my behalfe, by w'ch
fauo'e you shall perpetually oblige

S'r yo'e affect'onat kynsman
and humble seruant

EDW: LLOYD.

Dated at the Drill this

2th day of September, 1662.

Written along the side of the letter was the following:—
Mr Bayliffe Lloyd went this day to the Clinnyne for two
Certificates w'ch you shall receave by the next opportunity.

Direction:—These for his honored Cosen Edward Lloyd
Esq. at Mrs Vaughan in the yard in Kings street, West-
m'ster, London

Endorsed across the direction:—Cos: Lloyd off Lloina-
maine Sept. 2: 62:

Endorsed on back of fly leaf:—Coz: Lloyd of Loyni-
maine his Requesting Lletters to my ffather. With
Thomas Lloyd, and Coz: Conely. A not & acquaintance of
Coz. Lloyd.

The next extract from Mr Lloyd's MSS. is undated,
but was evidently written in 1660. It is a

LIST OF OSWESTRY MALIGNANTS.

The names of the Malignant Enymies to the Kinge
Matie, in, & aboute, Oswestree, in the County of Salop.
(To witt.)

Oswestree Townepp.

Morris Davies, one of the Bayliffes, & his wief.

William Gough, & his wief.

Capt John Jones.

John George.

Hugh Prees.

The widowe Kynaston.

Marye Thomley widowe.

Richard Jones of Woolliw Streete.

David ap Richard Buttcher.

John Waters.

Richard ap Thomas of Woolliw Streete.

Thomas Edwards Sherman } the 3 sonnes }

Nathaniell Edwards butcher } of Gabriel }

Hugh Edwards, Shoemaker } Edwards }

Richard Edwards, the sonne of Thomas Edwards of

Bylie Streete.

Daniell Edwards sherman.

Edward Griffiths maulster.

Thomas ffoote & his wief.

John Hughes shoemaker.

Margarett Parry widowe & her mayde.

Thomas flellton Brazier & his wiefe.

Mary Tomkies spinster.

Elizabeth Tomkies, spinster.

The basket maker & his wief.

Richard Prees, & William Prees brothers to Hugh Prees.

Morris, Davies, alis Bolliver, Samuall Davies his
brother.

Hugh Davies alis Bolliver.

Randle Bellinger.

John Tomley Smyth.

fraunces Ellis, of ye Stonehowse.

Richard Parry, one of ye sergeants at mace, & an Ana-
baptist.

William lloyd Buttonmaker.

Thomas Davies Smyth.

frauncis wheelocke tayler.

Robert Sympon.

John Edwards, shoemaker.

Samuall Jones Tayler.

John Hall Tayler.

John Hughes of Woolliw Streete.

Richard Tysoe pedler.

Thomas Davies, alis Dai:

William Baylie.

Thomas Hughes.

Sundry offences & Treasonable words, spoken & donne
by some of the p'ticular p'sons aforesaid:

(To witt)

The said Morris Davies, beinge Bayliffe
absente himself, the 14th of Maye, 1660, & d
bee p'sente, to p'clayme the Kinge, haveinge 2
dayes before.

Allsoe hee doth frequently, keepe a conv . . . howse
of meetings for malignants;

Allsoe Hugh Prees, beinge an alderman
to bee p'sent, to p'clayme the Kinge, allsoe denyed
& absented himself that daye. And is cruell

Enemye ag't him.

Allsoe hee, & his 2 brothers, Richard, & William, to-
gether w'th theire Cozens, Morris Davies ali's Bolliver,
Samuall Davies, ali's Bolliver, and Hugh Davies ali's
Bolliver were in armes ag't the Kinge, at Chester
bysenes & spoke treasonable words ag't him, then &
since.

Allsoe Mary Tomley, widowe, since the p'claymeinge of
the Kinge, in London & elsewhere, sayd the Queene is a
whoor & the Kinge is a bastard, the sonne of a whoor.

Allsoe Thomas foote & his wief in or aboute Aprill
last, 1660, sayd, the Queene, is a whoor & the Kinge a
bastard.

Allsoe, Gabriell Edwards 3 sonnes, lately spoke treasonable words, ag't the Kinge, & are Anabaptists.

Allsoe Marye Tomkies the 7th of Maye, 1660, sayd that Thomas Harkman, was a Runagate Rogue, for saying, God save the Kinge.

Allsoe, Morris Davies, ali's Bolliver, vpon munday night the 14th of Maye, 1660, endeavoured with all violence, to hinder the bone flyers, and scattered some abroad of them.

Richard Parry, sergeant, is an Anabaptist, & will not Christen his Children, & is alsoe, an enemye to the Kinge.

The said frauncis Ellis, Refusinge allsoe to come to the P'clamac'on, sayd, there will come shortly, an allterraco'n, & another Crye as touchinge that buysenes; this was the 14th of Maye, 1660 :

Allsoe, vpon the p'suyte after the Route at Chester, John Ed'ds shoemaker stole a horse from the Kings freinds & sayd hee tooke it, from his enemye & by his sword, nott beinge a listed souldier, butt an enemye to the Kinge.

Allsoe vpon Thursday the 17th of this moneth p'te of the souldiers mett at the widowe Jones howse in Oswestree, & there invented some plott, & spoke treasonable words ag't the Kinge. The widowe Jones cann discou'r this.

Allsoe one Harryes a souldier q'rteringe at the widowe Jones howse, since the p'clamac'on sayd that hee would heve the Kinge in peec's, if hee should come to England.

Synce Allsoe the same Harryes, & other souldiers, sayd, whye might nott the Kinge, bee Drown'd & cast awaye, by sea, as many Co'ells & Captaynes (w'ch were better men, then himself) were, Comeinge from Ireland, and occasioned by him.

Allsoe the sayd Harryes sayd, that if an' allterraco'n bee in England hee would bee meete w'th Mr Lloyd of llanvorda, for his boneflyer Drinkeinge & feastinge, at his howse, for Joye yt the Kings comeinge or threateninge words to such or the like in effect.

The widowe Jones yt heard this, & the other passages of the souldiers, Cann wittnes the same : &c.

That all the Com'r's named to Rayse the mallitia were Comision'd officers in armes, ag't the Kinge, and still Continue his enemye, & plott day & night to destroye him & his freinds, and delaye rayseinge of a mallitia, to that p'pose.

In another manuscript Mr Lloyd follows up his List of Oswestry Malignants with an account of Malignants in the neighbourhood. The Rowland Nevett mentioned here was ejected from the living of Oswestry in 1662, and then formed a Congregational Church at Sweeney, to which Thomas Baker, also mentioned, who was owner of the mansion at Sweeney, belonged. Another of the Malignants, Timothy Thomas, was ejected from Morton in 1662, and "according to Dr. Calamy (we are here quoting the late Mr Askew Roberts's historical notice of the Old Chapel), jointly with Mr Nevett he acted in the capacity of chaplain to Mrs Baker (the widow of Mr T. Baker), whose tomb-stone still exists in front of Sweeney Hall." Mr Thomas died in 1676, three or four months after the death of Mr Nevett, who was buried in Morton Church. We may add that "Edward Griffiths, maultster," is included in the list of Oswestry Malignants, and after the Sweeney Congregational Church had removed to Oswestry (1691-2) the premises leased for a place of worship (according to a document dated 1695) were in the occupation of "Edward Gryffithes and Edward Rogers."

The names of some of the Countrey p'sons, that are enemyes to the Kinge, (To witt,) William Jones, esqr., Roger Evance, esqr., Thomas Baker, Tymothy Thomas, Samuall Swanwicke, Thomas Kynaston of Ryton, John Edwards attorney, Lawrence Allenson, &c.

The Crymes Treasons & offences of the w'thin named p'sons, & Enemyes to the Kinge,

Ffirst, The said William Jones, hath bene allwayes a malignant Enemye to the Kinge, & all his Grand enemyes, within named Constantly make their Adresse, to him, for Councell, ag't his Matie :

2 hee, tooke seu'all Oathes, to bee iustice of peace, as vnder Cromwell, & the Keyes of the Libtie, allsoe to bee Recorder of Shrewsbury & Oswestree, & to bee Attorney of the Comonwealth for Mountgom'y Denbigh flynt & Chester.

3 and allsoe, hee tooke an Oath to bee Deputy iudge, in these Countyes vnder Broadshawe, And further allsoe to bee iudge in No'th Wales. And noe Oath of alleageance, to his Matie in all these : butt only to bee true to the late vsurper Cromwell & the said Keyes; & subscribed, (as is alledged) to hasten the late Kings tryall.

Allsoe the said Roger Evance, hath bene allwayes in ar. . . . the Kinge, & hath taken the aforesaid Oathes to bee Justice . . . & hath subscribed to hasten the late Kings tryall.

Allsoe Thomas Baker hath taken for the same, seu'all oaths . . . high sherieffe, of Salop, & to bee Justice of peace. and hath . . . entertayned Broadshawe, & his Deputyes to his howse, And subscribed allsoe to hasten the late Kings Tryall. And allwayes an enemye to his Matie.

Allsoe Samuall Swanwicke, hath bee allwayes in armes ag't the Kinge & his Grand enemye, & hath oppressed wrongfully many of his freinds, by takeinge their goods from them, & enriches himself therby, beinge a very poore man, before the wars : and hath bene lately in armes ag't the Kinge, in Chester buysenes, And a Com'r of sequestraco'n and allsoe hath subscribed to hasten the late Kings Tryall : Allsoe the said John Edwards hath bene allwayes an enemye to the Kinge beinge the said Jones man. And did p'clayme Richard Cromwell p'tector.

Allsoe the said Thomas Kynaston, sayd That the whole Race of the Kings of England came from . . . ; & that William the Conqueror their Orriignal from whence they came, was a bastard ; w'ch words were spoken aboute 6 yeers agoe, and hath allwayes Contynued, an enemye to the Kinge, And did subscribe to hasten the late Kings tryall.

Allsoe Lawrence Allenson, has bene allwayes a Malignant enemye ag't the Kinge, & in Armes ag't him. And allsoe a sequestrator. And by that vsurpinge office, rob'd many of the Kings freinds of their goods, to a greate value. And is an Anabaptist, and will nott have any of his Children Christened : &c.

Mynnisters.

Rowland Nevett, cl'rcke, will nott mynnister the Comunion, burye the deade, Baptize, nor visit the sicke, nor hath nott Donne this 16en yeers & more, and doth preach faulse Doctrine & Blasphemye, & a Grand enemye to the Kinge.

John Evance mynnister & schoolem'r is an Anabaptist, & doth preach faulse Doctrine, & an enemye to the Kinge :

Tymothy Thomas cl'rcke the like &c.

OSWESTRY PHANATICKS.

The List of "Oswestry Malignants" may be conveniently followed with a letter respecting Oswestry

"Phanaticks," though the date of the second manuscript is fourteen years later than that of the first. The account of the "Phanaticks" is of great interest, showing as it does that the authorities of the town "frequented the conventickles."

Hond. Sr.

9ber ye last 74.

According to yo'r communds I haue sent the bearer to you, who will giue you a full account concerninge our phanatiks in Oswestrie as alsoe their base usage of one of the informers, hauing now kept him in prison vpon a pretence for this 2 yeares yet haue promised him vpon condic'on, hee would not disturb them to haue his fredome, the present Maijr has threatn'd the bearer with the Pillory, & when he came to Informe him befoer last Sunday, he would not trust the bearer to goe along w'th him, but committed him as a prisoner into ye hands of 2 Catchpolses, And is supposed in the meantime to send them word as the bearer will informe you they did last time, their are 2 doores to their Conuenticle, as they goe up the one they come downe the other, The present Majors wife w'th the Constables usu[ally] frequent the Conuentickles, Tho' you forgot yo'r promise to me in London and were unsuccessfull in yo'r kindnesse to me in the Cuntry, I pray attempt it once moer, and you will verry much Oblidge

Yo'r most humble Seruant

EDWARD LLOYD.

I haue payd my Cosen Mathews 3 yeares usser.

ARTICLES AGAINST YE PHANATICALL CORPORATION OF OSWESTRY.

In these articles the complaints against the authorities of Oswestry for their "recusancy" in the time of Charles II. are set forth in fuller detail.

1. That ye Corporation was most early in armes against his Maj'ts faith & has continued a most inveterate Towne ever since.

2. That very few Magistrates have taken ye Sacramt. abjured the Covenant & subscribed ye declaration according to Act of Parliament.

3. That because they co'ld not proceede in their Phanaticall wayes without some disturbance, though weake, in a false election they voted those disturbers as uncapable ever after to be in a capassity to have any vote in ye election.

4. That because they co'ld not fully compleate their designe w'thout having the Towne Seale, & a grand Phanatick having the yeare before cheated his fellow Bayliff of ye Seale, to purchase a conventicle house, it was more difficult for ym to obtaine it now, soe yt one Glover a Tanner being then Bayliff, before he could maste ther Towne Seale pretended he would but seale to acquittances for ye Poore, but finding yt w'thout an Oath he co'ld not p'vaile, he swore & cursed himselfe that he would make noe other use of it then Seale ye Poores acquittances, though unknowne to any that were in yeir Burgess Hall, he seal'd an instrumt. contrary to his promise, Oa'h & curse, & being asked by a friend what he had donn, after, he answered, he had don that w'n if the Burgesses knew of, they would teare him to peeces.

5. That instrumt. he put the Towne Seale too, was contrary to 3 parts of ye Burgesses, & all the cuntry gentlemen, being a full power granted under yt Seale to two persons, as it were, Strangers to ye Towne, & Phanatically inclined, especially Mr Ralph Davenport, because he would not, abjure the covenant he lost his clerks place worth £200 p' annum these 2 men were appoynted to procure a new charter, to take the liberty of the most ancient

Burgesses from them, to place ye upstartes in the first rank of Aldermen, to alter the market extremely to the Townes prejudice, & insted of Bayliffs & Burgesses they must have Mayor Aldermen and Common councill: the phanatiks. were not capable to serve they without there privilege put in others.

That the cause why this alteration was, that ye Phanatiks might have the Sole power in their owne hands.

That ye last Bayliffs were often inform'd that the Phanatiks did not only ring the bells, but alsoe at that same time had severall preachers at their purchased preaching house & did then & their preach, yet notw'thstanding did allwaies refuse to fine or suppress them.

That one of ye Bayliffs being John Glover knowing the time they used to preach did commonly hide himselfe least the informer should finde him.

That ye other being Richard Jones did use to say when the informers inform'd him, that he knew the danger but because they had promis'd to save him harmeless, he would not meddle w'th them.

That one of ye Informers was by ye Bayliffs put in ye stocks because he had press'd them by their duty.

That afterward the same informer because he should noe more disturb them, was by a Phanaticall plott, upon a pretence of debt w'ch he was never able to pay, put into prison w'th Irons upon him & the doore fast made but often promised his libertye if he would let them alone.

That at an election for the chusing of Bayliffs, because one of ye Phanaticall party that they chose should not be elected, they hindred the Burgesses of their election, & because that one Capt'n Jones, now very obedient to the Kings lawes, & a true sonn of ye church of England, was elected One of ye Bayliffs, they did contrary to their charter & their custome, ye votes being 4 to one for him, refuse to admitt him because he was an Ante phanatick & would very much oppose their principles, but at last Bayly Jones caused his owne Sonn to be elected w'th ye sayd capt'n & then the election to pass but not before designing to command his sonn not to take the Oath of Bayliff, which accordingly he refused, & soe the elected Bayliffs, were not sworne neither should they, soe that the Other would be rather at the charge of staying in their office halfe a yeare longer.

That one of the informers being call'd traytor by one of the Phanaticks sued him in the court of Oswestry but the jurie being most Phanaticks brought the plaintiff but halfe a crowne damage, and afterward the bayliffs refus'd to put their hand to ye charges the court allowd, and the Recorder under his hand declared it was law.

That not only the former steward has admitted, Bayliffs to officiate, w'thout taking the sacramt. abjuring ye covenant & subscribing the declaration, And the Bayliffs have not only omitted to suppress the conventicles, but alsoe ye Recorder himselfe being inform'd by two bes'des the church wardens, that the conventicles was held contrary t' the statute, he utterly refused to suppress them, soe yt. the Kings lawes and church governm't must be totally villified, where ye Steward, Bayliffs & Recorder countenance the Phanatick & neglect their duty.

That the present deputy Mayor Mr. Owen (when Coroner) being inform'd that a conventicle was held at the purchas'd place, call'd the informer all the ill names he co'ld, & committed him to ye charg of 2 men, denying him to com w'th him because he should not see what he did, but he returning said there was but one man ther, & a company of silly woemen and added, raskall if you com to complayne thus frivilously, upon ye account w'ch does not concerne you I will put you upon the pillory.

That the said informer comming to ye said Deputy, and telling him that their was a conventicle, ye said informer

saw one running out from ye Mayors to ye next house from whence he saw a woeman runne, but being commanded by ye Mayor to enquire for constables he followed the woman, but she was just got before him into the croude, & having inform'd them of the designe, they all came downe, & the Mayor was afterward by others inform'd, and went up and fownd his constables at Devotion there but the Phanaticks went downe a back doore, & after the Mayor had turn'd his back came up a gaine, he tooke their names but fined them not.

That all ye considerable woemen of the whole Towne goe to the conventicle.

That ye Phanaticks say they will justifie their action, and preach in spite of the lawes.

That it is an impossible thing to hope to see either the lawes obey'd or the church flourish, whilst ye corporation stands thus principled & unpunished.

That ye Phanaticks w'thout being bound [? a yeere] prenticeset up many trades a peece, acting all by collusion among themselves, & having all the power, doe what they please, and abridge whom they please, seeking to ruin all yt oppose their principles.

The measure [End in MSS.]

? Whether if some speedy punishment be not inflicted vpon ye Spirit mongers there neede Steeple or Church in Oswaldstrey.

? Whether ye Vicar being admonished can be thought a good man eury or most Sabbath days to act ag't ye Kings laws & the Canons of ye Church.

? Whether he concludes an Oath obligatorye longer yn ye Power lasts in force yt gave it.

? Whether his daughter going to ye Divils Rendesvous shewes not ye fathers consent & yt he still relishes of Satrans old Leaven.

? Whether ye Sts bought there high Seate of Conventicling with there numberd pence or came to it by cheating.

? Whether any true son of ye Church of England has not reason to feare the Sts have not forgot to cut throates.

? Whether ye flawne (?) of a St ought to be ye Parishes Burthen & bred amongst reprobates the Dad being previously (?) anointed & gifted.

? Whether one Catchpole carries not more from ye high way yn all ye overseers carry or cause to be carryed to it.

? Whether more have not bin borne to trades in Oswaldstrey yn have served.

? Whether a St may not chuse . . . as he is a St 5 or 6 trades without being bound to any.

The abbreviated word *printed* "St." almost certainly stands for "saint."

THE LLOYDS AND OSWESTRY TOLLS.

The following letter shows that the Lloyds of Llanforda claimed to be exempt from the payment of tolls in Oswestry.

Mr Pugh March ye 15, 76.

The Oranges came not vnto mee neither in quantity nor quality as I left them. I wanted one China ye rest were lost & without papers. I wonder you did not send mee an account on Tuesday as you promised nor yt you did not send mee my Brendy. I have sent you 4 mise of white herring & 4 salt salmons, those one with another I expect 3s. a piece for, & for my white herrings 2s. if not more a lb. ye sell ym w'th you but three a penny, but if you can gett mee a chapman for 10 or 20 mise I'll use him very kindly, buy some old vessels yt will hould and are good, saw ym in ye halfe, and if they be not sould before this man goes out of towne, he will shew you how to put ym up. This man has heretofore carried as a sert. from Llanforda both webbs and strong waters, in my Father &

Mothers time, and being asked by ye Toleman for tole, he sd he came from Llanforda, they let him goe and demanded nothing more of him, if it be not too late acquaint my Cousin Kyaston with this, as soon as this letter is read, and if he thinks it convenient ye man may take his oath of ye same, a yong fellow came this weeke with a load of bottles through ye Town, and being askt for toale he sd they were my bottles, & ye Toalmen let him goe free. Pray if you are not acquainted be soe with ye toaleman, and if he be noe very great friend of Sr. Rich : Corbets, inquire if I or any of my Ancestors ever as he heard pd toale for I haue wittnes to proue we neuer did, though we haue often bought & sould in ye town. you will receaue I presume ere long good store of white herrings from Mrs Pryce out of Cardiganshire with a letter directed to you w'ch you are to pay for ye carriage, which doe and place it on my account, & when you sell ye herring pay yr selfe, they are ye very same with these yt come now. I hope you may sell ym before they come to you, or change ym for any comodity yt will pass off in Oswaldstry. Tell Mr Ball ye last leafe Tobacco I had of him was all rotten, & buy sixe penyworth of good leafe of him, and tell him, I hope he will use you kindly, ye last being soe bad, this is all at present from

Your friend to serue you E. LL.

Pray shew these herrings to Mr Llewelin & if hee likes em tell him I'll vse him as fair as hee shall desire. Wrap the Tobacco leafe in leather tyd at both ends.

LLOYDS WHO HAVE BEEN BURGESSES OF SHREWSBURY.

A Note of all the Lloyds that have beene Burgesses of Shrewsbury since the six and thirtieth year of King Henry the Sixth :—

Lloyd Jeffrey, Draper	Ann: R: R
Lloyd David Draper	36—H: 6
de Longner	} 36: H: 6
Lloyd al's Gittins John.....	
de Longner	06: E: 4
Lloyd John Draper	13: E: 4
Lloyd John Ar.	29: H: 7
Lloyd Rich: Baker	29: H: 7
Lloyd David Baker	01: H: 7
Lloyd David Weaver.....	11: H: 8
Lloyd David Draper.....	03 Mar:
Lloyd David Gent:	06 Eliz:
Lloyd Jeffrey Mercer	15 Eliz:
Lloyd John, Mercer.....	16 Eliz:
Lloyd Hugh Sheereman	24 Eliz:
Lloyd Hum: Shereman	24 Eliz:
Lloyd Evan Mercer	43 Eliz:
Lloyd David Gent.	05: Jac:
Lloyd John Draper	15: Jac:
Lloyd Peter Baker.....	22: Jac:
Lloyd William Mercer	06: Car: 1°
Lloyd John Clothworker.....	06: Car: 1°

Since sexto Carol: primis there are three more Lloyd but the Books dont menc'on what year of the King, or of Our Lord they were made Burgesses, I Conceive in the late times vizt.

Lloyd Rich: Mercer
Lloyd Jasper Clothworker
Lloyd Isaac Carpenter

I am sure these are of too late a standing for your enquiry.—Yours E. KINASTON.

QUERIES.

THE BANISTER FAMILY.—Can any information be given as to the family of Banister? Several places

bear it as a second name. Thus our village is Sulhamstead Banister, said to be from a family of the name. I know there were Banisters of Middle, Co. Chester, and Hadnal, Shropshire. I want to know if they possessed property in Berks?—(See *Bye-Gones*, May 29, 1872.)
Sulhamstead Park, Berks. E. E. THOMAS.

ARMS WANTED.—Will some of your readers kindly furnish me with a full description of the arms with their owners' names, from the Wood Medallion Rose lent by Lord Mostyn (Mostyn Hall) to the Wrexham Exhibition in 1876, and described in *Bye-Gones*, for October, 1876? I should also be glad of lists of those families who bore the arms of the old Welsh Kings, as I am trying to collect them into a volume.
Sulhamstead Park, Berkshire. E. E. THOMAS.

OLD SHROPSHIRE CUSTOMS.—MAY DAY.—The following is from a MS. of Dr. Percy's, communicated to *Notes and Queries* (Sept. 24, 1887):—

May Day is celebrated in Shropshire by fixing great branches of the birch-tree before every door, having posies of flowers and garlands tied to the said branches. The milk-maids there (as in London) dress up their milk-pails with garlands and silver plate, and go from house to house gathering money. This of the birch-boughs and milk-pails is chiefly in the market towns. In the country villages they have may-poles adorned with garlands, round which the young men and maidens dance. But for other particulars I must refer to Mr Price. . . . The flower of hawthorn or quickset is in these counties called peculiarly *May*, or the may-flower. In Shropshire they get all sorts of wild flowers to strew before their doors under the birch-boughs, and these flowers are indiscriminately called *May*, or may-flowers.
Is May Day still observed anywhere in Shropshire? And who is Mr Price? W.O.

REPLIES.

WELSH MAGISTRATES (Sept. 21, 1887).—In response to the suggestion of your correspondent, E. POOLE, I annex a list of Montgomeryshire Magistrates, whose names appear on the Gaol File of the Summer Assizes, held at Montgomery on the 26th May, 36 Hen. VIII, (1544). This is probably the first list of Magistrates appointed after the Act, 27 Hen. VIII., c. 26. These names are all names of local men, well-known to students of Montgomeryshire Genealogy --

1. Jacob Leech, Esq.
2. Mathew ap Thomas ap Rees, Esq.
3. Griffith David John, Esq.
4. Rees ap Morris ap Owen, Esq.
5. David Lloyd ap David Mathewe, Esq.
6. David ap Lewis ap David ap Llewelyn, Esq.
7. William Herbert, Esq.
8. Humphrey Lloyd, Esq.
9. Lewis Jones, Esq.
10. Edward ap Rees, Esq.
11. Richard Poe (*Clericus*)
12. Richard Banaster, Esq.
13. Edmund Mydelton, Esq.
14. John Clun, Esq.
15. Nicholas Purcell, Esq.
16. Edward Kenaston, Esq.
17. John ap Hoell Vychan, Esq.
18. Edmund ap Cadwallader, Esq.
19. John ap Res, Esq.

PEARMAN.

HISTORY OF WALES (Sep. 21, 1887).—BONWM asks which is considered the best History of Wales. The question is a rather delicate one. The selection of Welsh national histories, however, is not so large but that a very fair answer may be returned to the question. I think BONWM will find that the most thorough history in the vernacular is "*Hanes Cymru*," by the late Rev. Thos. Price, a distinguished Welsh bard, sometime rector of Cwmdd, Brecknockshire, whose writings for a period of 30 years under the bardic signature of "*Carnhuanawc*," by their originality and brilliancy were the theme of admiration among educated Welshmen the world over. The Rev. Thomas Price published "*Hanes Cymru*" in parts between the years 1837-1842. The work was printed by a Crickhowel printer named Thomas Williams, who died, aged between 80 and 90, last summer; Williams had in his possession some of "*Carnhuanawc*'s" letters, which he highly prized, and which I had the pleasure of perusing some three or four years ago. At the Cambrian Archaeological Association meetings held at Abergavenny in August, 1876, Dr. Freeman, the historian, called attention to the great need of a "comprehensive and critical history of Wales," and it was the generally expressed opinion of many of the Welsh litterateurs present that "*Hanes Cymru*," although in the Welsh language, went a good way towards supplying the national want. The great drawback to a work of undoubted merit ("*Hanes Cymru*" is certainly this) is that it is printed in a language only accessible to the few. If "*Carnhuanawc*'s" work was capably translated into English, and brought down to the present time, it would stand for ages. In some measure, however, this great want of a good English work on Welsh national history has been met by the late Miss Jane Williams's "*History of Wales*," published in one royal octavo volume in 1869 by Messrs Longmans, Green, and Co., of London. The work is well arranged, with side notes, and exhaustive foot notes, giving the authority for every historical statement and fact set forth. It is really a monument of painstaking labour, erudition, and careful research, and the work deserves to be better known than it seems to be. I had a letter the other day from an American gentleman, who has quite a passion for collecting all books issued in the English language bearing upon Wales. The last time I heard from him, two or three months ago, he had collected 1,000 distinct works bearing upon Wales, many printed in America, of which I possess a few duplicates, and my American friend told me it was his intention to publish an American edition of Miss Jane Williams's work, provided he got the necessary list of subscribers up. I sent you a short biographical note of Miss Williams two or three years ago (she died at a great age). This lady was the author of a life of "*Carnhuanawc*," and edited his literary remains (two volumes royal octavo). The two histories I have mentioned will hold their own against the somewhat superstitious and traditional works of the earlier historians. EDWIN POOLE.

Brecknock.

CURRENT NOTES.

The marriage of Mr Edgar F. Jenkins, of Doctors' Commons, son of General Jenkins, of Cruckton Hall, with Edith Helen, only daughter of the late Mr Wm. Shearman Turner, and grand-daughter of the late Sir Richard

Jenkins, G.C.B., formerly M.P. for Shrewsbury, was recently solemnized at All Saints' Church, Norfolk-square.

The Vicarage of Hadnal, near Shrewsbury, has become vacant by the decease, in his 74th year, of the Rev. William Oliver. The benefice is of small value, and is in the gift of the Rev. George A. Egerton, M.A., Rector of Middle, Shrewsbury, for life, afterwards passing to the patronage of Earl Brownlow.

The Chester Association of the Old King's Scholars held their annual dinner on Thursday at the Grosvenor Hotel. After a special service at the Cathedral, Mr Alfred Ewen, chairman, said he was happy to say that this year the Association had been able to do something to keep green the memory of an old King's Scholar of whom they were all very proud—the late Randolph Caldecott—by the erection of a tablet to his memory in the part of Chester Cathedral where the King's Scholars used to assemble when they went to church. The residue of the subscriptions after erecting the tablet would be applied to the foundation of a Caldecott Prize for drawing in the King's School, and if enough came in to found a scholarship they would only be too glad to found it.

On Thursday the Bishop of Lichfield consecrated the new Church of Holy Trinity, Shrewsbury, which replaces one erected in 1837. The plans were prepared by Mr Lloyd Oswell. The total cost will be £4,700. The old chancel has been allowed to remain, but has been improved in several respects. The church will accommodate 822 worshippers, which is 340 in excess of the old church. The consecration was witnessed by a large congregation, including the Mayor and Corporation, and the Bishop, in the course of an address, said he recollected very well when he came down there to consult with their vicar and the churchwardens as to what should be done with their old church, that he recommended the course which had since been adopted. He was afraid that the advice was not acceptable at the time to all who received it, but he felt confident all would rejoice that they had the courage to undertake so great and difficult a work, now that it was so successfully accomplished.

ASHFORD SCHOOL.—We regret to learn that Mr C. W. Jones, the energetic and respected secretary of the Welsh Girls' School at Ashford, has been compelled by ill health to resign. Mr Jones has worked for the school for many years, and though his labours have told upon his health, he has the satisfaction of feeling that they have helped to bring the school in which he has taken such deep interest to a very successful position. It will be no easy task to find a successor who will devote so much time and pains to the service of the school.

OSWESTRY CASTLE BANK.—A meeting (convened by the Mayor and presided over by him) was held in the Council Chamber on Thursday of persons interested in the Castle Bank either as original shareholders or as representatives. Mr Parry-Jones, Town Clerk, explained the trusts upon which the property was originally conveyed in 1853 to the late Mr James Thomas Jones for the benefit of a number of shareholders to be used as an arboretum. It was stated that owing to there not being any fund to maintain the grounds, &c., in order, it had gradually fallen to decay, but that Mr Thomas Minshall, one of the shareholders, had spent considerable sums in improvements, so as to prevent the property from falling into the hands of outsiders.—After some discussion it was proposed by Dr. Fuller, and seconded by Mr Fletcher Rogers, that the Castle Bank be conveyed to the Corporation of Oswestry upon trust, for an arboretum and public recreation ground for the inhabitants of Oswestry for ever.—This was carried unanimously.—We understand that a special meeting

of the Council will now be called to consider whether the trust shall be accepted, and if so under what conditions the public shall be admitted, &c.

THE ROYAL TRIBES OF WALES.

We have already announced (Aug. 24, 1887) the publication of a new edition of the "*Royal Tribes of Wales*,"* edited by Mr Richard Williams, F.R.H.S., of Celynog, Newtown. The work is appropriately dedicated to the Earl of Powis, "himself a representative of more than one of the tribes whose history is given in the following pages," and Mr Williams, who for years has studied the history and antiquities of his native land, possessed many qualifications for the task which he undertook, and has most successfully carried out. Yorke's useful and interesting book is republished with great accuracy, and in a style that does credit to printer, publisher, and editor. The excellent portraits which adorn the first edition are reproduced by the typographical etching system, with somewhat unequal results; but it is unreasonable to expect from the most careful reproduction of this kind exactly the same satisfaction which is derived from the original engravings. The illustrations maintain the portraiture with remarkable fidelity; it is the fine tone which is lacking; and their necessary inferiority to the originals will only be felt by the few happy possessors of the first edition. The portraits, which add considerably to the interest of the book, include Judge Jefferies, whose visage scarcely prepares us for the cruelties that made his name infamous; and another lawyer, Sir William Williams (ancestor of the present Sir Watkin), of whom, looking at his likeness here, it is easy enough to believe the familiar story. Travelling the Welsh circuit, as our readers will remember, he danced one evening with Miss Kyffin of Glascoed, and got leave to ask her hand of her father. "And what have you," said the old gentleman pretty roughly to him, "I have, sir," says Williams, "a tongue and a gown." He won the lady, as he deserved. As to Mr Williams's work in this edition, he says, in his biographical introduction, it has been his object to add by way of notes such information as he has been able to gather, showing the changes which have come over the old families of Wales even since Yorke's time, and bringing their story down to the present date. But this is very far from giving a full account of the valuable additions to Yorke's book which the present editor has made. For example, Yorke traces the descendants of only two of the sons of Bleddyn ap Cynfyn, and not all of these. Mr Williams furnishes Addenda in which information is supplied as to other descendants of Bleddyn's, amongst whom is mentioned John Lucy Scudamore, Esq., of Kentchurch Court, living in 1880, who traced his ancestry to Owain Glyndwr. Of the fourth Royal Tribe Yorke has less to say by a good deal than Mr Williams; and Addenda also appear at the close of the description of the Fifth Tribe. It is not easy to estimate Mr Williams's labour in collecting all this information, by which the value of the *Royal Tribes* to the genealogist, and the historian of Wales, is considerably enhanced. To the appendix are added Sir John Wynn's Instructions to his Chaplain, and the Inventory of Sir John's Wardrobe, both copied from Pennant's *Tours in Wales*; and finally, it was a happy thought to include in the present volume the "Fifteen Tribes of Wales," by, it is supposed, Robert Vaughan, the antiquary, and the

* *The Royal Tribes of Wales*, by Philip Yorke, Esq., of Erthig, to which is added an account of the Fifteen Tribes of North Wales, with numerous additions and notes, preface and index, by the editor, Richard Williams, Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. Liverpool: Isaac Foulkes.

account of the tribe of Tudor Trevor called by Pennant the Sixteenth Tribe. When we add that there is an index of seven pages, it will be understood that Mr Williams has made a valuable contribution to the antiquarian literature of Wales, and the volume is one which must be often consulted in the future. Yorke's *Royal Tribes* will interest, not the antiquary only, but the general reader, for the author had the rare power of making a book of genealogy entertaining. It gives a good insight into Welsh history, particularly at the time when the Welsh were fighting for independence, and many pictures of domestic life; and Mr Yorke is fond of a good tale whenever he can find it. Thus he delights to tell of Sir Peter Mutton of Llanerch, who said in the House of Commons "that this time was not the first that stamps were used, for he had heard before he was born, that stamps were used here in this kingdom." And here is another story which throws some light upon the religious condition of Wales only about a century ago:—

The last Mr Wynn sat for the boroughs of Carnarvonshire, and will be remembered in the annals of hospitality for his plentiful long tables and substantial Christmas dinners. He was not so fond of long sermons, especially in cold weather; and it happened that Bishop Sherlock then of Bangor, his old acquaintance, was on a visit with him at Bodysgallen, on a Sunday, and observing to the curate at dinner, that he was surprised he had given them no sermon that morning: "Ah, my Lord," says poor Ellis in his broad simple manner, "had I PREACHED when Master Wynn *is* in church, I *shall* have nothing but small beer; but when I *do* not PREACH when Master *is* in church, I may have my belly-full of ale and welcome."

The portrait of Sir John Trevor, Master of the Rolls, who was expelled from the Speakership for corruption, gives point to the joke of the time, that Justice was blind, but Bribery only squinted. Of this dishonest lawyer several tales are told, in one of which, often repeated, his cousin Roderic Lloyd figures. We will quote another relating to Lloyd which is not so well known.

He was returning rather elevated from his club one night, and ran against the pump in Chancery lane. Conceiving somebody had struck him, he drew, made a lounge at the pump, and the sword entering the spout, the pump being crazy fell down. Roderic concluded he had killed his man; left his sword in the pump, and retreated to his old friend's [Trevor's] house at the Rolls. There he was concealed by the servants for the night. In the morning his Honor, having heard the story, came himself to deliver him from his consternation and confinement in the coalhole.

Light is thrown upon many matters of local interest in these pages. We learn how Oswestry lordship passed to the English Fitz Alans; how a small piece of Flintshire comes to be surrounded by English soil; of places in this district which were formerly noble or princely residences. Of more general interest is Yorke's method of proving that Cromwell was descended from one of the Royal tribes:—

The Protector Cromwell was descended from Cadwgan. The family name was anciently Williams; Morgan Williams of Nantchurch in Cardiganshire married the sister of Thomas Cromwell, the Minister Earl of Essex, and was succeeded by his son, Sir Richard Cromwell of Hinchinbroke in Huntingdonshire, who first assumed the name of Cromwell: He was father to Sir Henry Cromwell, the grandfather by his second son Robert of Oliver the Protector. I know nothing of Oliver's partialities to Wales; but he encouraged a small octavo of the Welsh Bible, when that edition (which from its size was thought useful) was scarce; and an act of Parliament passed for the propagation of the Gospel in North Wales. The London Polyglot Bible was produced at the same time, and Cromwell ever appears a steady friend to the Protestant interests. I do not find that his military occasions brought him to Wales, but he might have made a friendly visit there; for in the old house at Kinmael, then belonging to Colonel Carter, an officer in his favour, is a room called Cromwell's parlor.

Yorke might have added that according to tradition Cromwell's spur once hung in St. George's

Church by Kinnel gates. Some of our readers will remember that Carlyle deals, in his characteristic way, with the question of Cromwell's Welsh descent, and mentions that Cromwell himself was known in his youth to sign himself "Cromwell alias Williams;" but he adds—"Welsh pedigrees, with seventy shields of arms, 'Glothian Lord of Powys' (prior or posterior to the Deluge), though 'written on a parchment eight feet by two feet four, bearing date 1602, and belonging to the Miss Cromwells of Hampstead,' are highly unsatisfactory to the ingenuous mind." Finally, Carlyle leaves the question in doubt, where also perhaps other "unheraldic minds" must leave it. Of course we have all learnt since Yorke's day that Cromwell's "military occasions" did take him into Wales.

JOHN CEIRIOG HUGHES.

We take the following from "Some Typical Poets of Wales," by the Rev. H. Elvet Lewis, which appears among the interesting contents of the ever-popular *Leisure Hour* (for September):—

John Ceiriog Hughes, one of the best lyric poets of Wales in the present century, can scarcely be compared with D. ap Gwilym in luxuriance of imagination or sensuous consciousness of Nature. His was a humbler faculty of song. But he has rendered excellent service to the national melodies of "Cymru Fu" by writing words congenial to their spirit—a work which Robert Burns did for Scottish melodies. One of his most popular poems is a lyrical romance, entitled "Myvanwy Vychan." The scene of the story is laid in the immediate neighbourhood of the Castle of Dinas Brân (vulgarly called "Crow" Castle), in the picturesque Vale of Llangollen. Myvanwy was the daughter of the lord of the castle; and one day while wandering beneath the ancient oak-trees which "once soothed the wind round Dinas Brân," she discovered in the cleft of a lightning-riven trunk a love-token. It was a Welsh *peithynen*—answering the purpose of the valentine. This was a frame made of three or four movable pieces of carved wood, and covered with writing. It was often dyed blue, so as to make the writing clearer, and it was in this instance. She was interested, but she was afraid; but, as ever, curiosity settled the question in its own favour. This is what she read:—

In conduct, appearance, and dress,
The poet must always be odd;
He blunders through life—nothing less,
And travels a contrary road:
If he falls in love with a maid,
Not a word in her presence speaks he—
He writes her some poems instead!
'Tis very poor wooing, this writing of songs to thee,
This hiding of songs for thee!
In primrose, and clover, and rose,
Thou gleamest always on my sight;
In the daylight that stainlessly flows.
In the starry eyes of the night:
When Venus clear rises above,
'Twixt the evening sky and the sea,
Earth and heaven are filled with her love;
But thou, my Myvanwy, art brighter and fairer to me,
A thousand times dearer to me!
Fame dazzles the poet's eyes,
He lives and he moves—so they say—
Between the firm earth of the wise
And the land where the fairies play:
But if Immortality now
Would offer its laurel to me,
I would pluck it from off my brow—
For I would not have it: I spurn it—unless I have thee,
Myvanwy, unless I have thee!

Oh! that I were but as the breeze
That visits thy garden in flower,
To speak in thine ear what I please,
And play with thine hair by the hour:
The breeze is so various and sly,
Both gentle and sharp it can be—
The breeze has thy kisses, not I!
Not changeable, light of my soul, is my love for thee,
Eternal my love is for thee!

In the cleft of an ancient oak
I find my *peithynen* a place;
Where the white-gleaming lightning's stroke
Has left an indelible trace:
And nobody sees but the moon—
If only, my own, thou wert she,
My secret were thine very soon;
But I trust in my heart, some spirit will whisper to thee,
Some spirit will tell it to thee!

Myvanwy read the song; she read it more than once. She made brave efforts to intersperse the lines, as she read them, with humorous comments, but it was not successful. The romance of it all had touched her heart. She had dreamed three times of one of her father's doves building its nest, companionless, in the cleft of a tree; and the dream and the song became strangely confused in her mind. In her perplexity she paid a visit to Howel ap Einion, a young bard living at the foot of the castle hill, and the author of the mischief withal! After much trepidation she succeeded in telling him her story, and she requested him to make a *peithynen* in reply. Awkwardly, he consented. Under ordinary occasion a poet would find some difficulty in making answer to himself; he is the artist of interrogation, and not of replies. But she gave him the cue; he was to sing of her as a bird of the greenwood free on her wings, complaining of the fate which kept her lover out of sight "in the cleft of a tree." And he was to carve two hearts, side by side, touching each other; which, as he gallantly remarked, "would be poetry in itself, without adding anything more." So she left him, more than ever in love, to write a love-letter to himself. It was done by the appointed day; whether it was well done or not shall never be known; the judgment of the two, under the circumstances did not amount to much. She read it, and was more embarrassed than ever.

Love's fulness is much like the sea,
For each has its ebb and its flow:
It swells, but no fuller can be;
It ebbs—is it less? Not so!

The heart of Myvanwy was moved,
The question was terribly hard—
That strange correspondent she loved,
But did she dislike this bard?

She was afraid lest he might consider himself, in any case, too far beneath her station to attempt anything bolder than the sending of anonymous love songs, even if he were the guilty lover, as she now strongly suspected. So in a fashion which has in modern times received the stamp of royalty, she declared herself to belong to that unknown lover, whoever he might be.

"But what of the hearts? where are they—
With the name of Myvanwy in one,
And the other left blank till some day
That hand will have made itself known?"

The poet moved backward a slide:
Doubt suddenly vanished when he,—
Myvanwy's beloved,—with pride
Stepped out from his "cleft in the tree":
Two hearts close together were shown,
In exquisite figure expressed;
"Myvanwy" had one for her own,
The other had "Howel" possessed.

For the sake of those who make a study of literary parallelisms, it may be interesting to note that "Myvanwy Vychan" was published eight years before "Enoch Arden," so that the incident of the letter in the decayed trunk could not have been borrowed from the laureate's poem.

Another lyric of a different character must at present suffice:—

Mountain stream of coolest crystal,
On thy way through shade and gleam,
Rushes hear thy whispered music,—
Oh! that I were as the stream.
Mountain heather all in blossom,—
How my heart with longing fills,
To abide among the breezes
With the heather on the hills.
Mountain song-birds, free and happy,
To some high endeavour stirr'd:
Among lofty peaks careering—
Oh! that I were as a bird!
I, a Son, too, of the Mountain,
Sing a song away from home;
But my heart is with it always,
With the birds and heather-bloom.

THE RE-OPENING OF ASTON CHAPEL.

The pretty chapel which nestles among the stately cedars planted long ago on the lawn at Aston Hall, and under the shadow of which are laid to rest the remains of the Lady Frances Lloyd, wife of Colonel Lloyd, of Aston Hall, was yesterday re-opened, having been restored as a memorial of Lady Frances Lloyd. The site has been occupied by a chapel since the fifteenth century, and last century, in 1742, the present chapel was erected by the then squire of Aston, Thomas Lloyd. This building was in the prevailing style, of red brick, with grey sandstone dressings, round headed windows, and a square tower at the west end, surmounted at each corner by vases of grey sandstone. The internal arrangement, which remained unchanged until this year, consisted of high pews, a three-decker pulpit, the old communion rails, and a west gallery.

The work of restoration, which has just been concluded, was undertaken in March last, the cost of the work, with some exceptions, being borne by Col. Lloyd. The work of restoration was placed in the hands of Mr A. E. Street, and the contract was given to Mr Yates of Shifnal. The roof was formerly slated, and plastered internally, but it has now been boarded and covered with red tiles supplied by Mr J. C. Edwards of Ruabon. This work was carried out by the men employed on the estate, under the direction of Mr Higley, the bailiff. Some of the principals are very old, and are, there can be little doubt, fifteenth century timber. The interior of the chapel has been entirely cleared out, the walls have been scraped and re-plastered, and in the windows the wooden frames have been re-placed by graceful mullions and filled with cathedral glass. The nave and the chancel have been laid with en-

caustic tiles, and the floor under the seats has been laid with wood blocks, laid in herring-bone fashion. The door which formerly led from the north side into the chancel has been carried outwards, and by this means an organ chamber has been formed with a vestry behind, and underneath the necessary fittings for heating the chapel with hot air. The new windows on each side of the vestry are in character with the rest of the building. The arch separating the tower from the nave has been renewed, and the west gallery has been removed. One of the most beautiful features of the restoration is the wood work, the cost of which, about £300, has been borne by friends of the late Lady Frances in Oswestry and the neighbourhood. These seats, which are beautifully carved, and very comfortable, will accommodate between eighty and ninety, and the chancel contains seats for twenty-five, but on special occasions this number can be considerably increased. The interior of the church is surrounded by a dado made of the old black oak which formed a portion of the furniture of the unrestored chapel. Panels formed of the old oak are also inserted in the backs of all the seats. The font, a graceful monolith, which formerly stood in the chancel, is now placed on the north side of the west entrance. A two-light window of exquisite stained glass has been placed on the south of the chancel, and underneath is the inscription, "To the glory of God and in loving memory of Frances Lloyd this window is given by her brothers and sisters, 1887." The contributory brothers and sisters are the Earl of Kinnoull, Capt. the Hon. A. Hay Drummond, Lieut.-Col. the Hon Charles Hay, Lady Louisa Moncrieffe, Lady Elizabeth Dugmore, and Lady Saye and Sele. Both lights contain representations of the Saviour; in one He carries a lamp in His hand and underneath is the legend "I am the Light of the World," in the other he carries a lamb, and the inscription is "I am the Good Shepherd." A graceful sedilia, which is placed in the chancel, is the gift of Mr and Mrs Alfred Darby. The simple brass cross which forms the central adornment of the altar, is the gift of Mrs E. J. Rees, the eldest daughter of Colonel and Lady Frances Lloyd; and a brass plate affixed to the reading desk records the fact that "In memory of the Lady Frances Lloyd all the woodwork of this chapel was given by her friends and neighbours, October 4, 1887." Consistently with the loving and ungrudging spirit in which the restoration has been conducted by Col. Lloyd, a plate has been fixed in the porch, bearing a copy of an older inscription, "Christ's Chapel, re-built by Thomas Lloyd, Esq., 1742"; and the present restoration is recorded in brass in the following terms, "To the glory of God this Chapel was restored by Colonel R. T. Lloyd, 1887, in memory of the Lady Frances Lloyd." The altar piece of the unrestored chapel was an exquisite old painting, representative of the Last Supper, and this has now been placed in full view on the inside of the tower. The leadwork and piping is provided by Mr George Tyley of Oswestry, and the necessary painting has been done by Mr Henry Lewis of Oswestry. The cost of the work is about £1,400, and this, with the exception of the cost of the seating about £300, is borne by Col. Lloyd.

The Late R. Swann, Esq.

We regret to record the death, yesterday, of Mr Robt. Swann, late of the Mount, Oswestry. Mr Swann was married in November, 1885, to his second wife, Miss Louisa Wright, daughter of Mr Wright of Halston, and took up his residence at the Mount, which he left only a short time ago, and the sale of furniture was going on there at the time of his death. Mr Swann, who was in Yorkshire with his wife, had been in ill-health for some time, and was taken much

worse a few days ago. His daughter, whose marriage with Captain Meyrick Pryce of Cyfronydd we recorded in August, was summoned from Montgomeryshire yesterday, but we believe Mr Swann had passed away before she arrived. Great sympathy will be felt with Mrs Swann in her bereavement, and with the Halston family, and the young bride who so soon after her marriage has been called upon to mourn the loss of her father.

OCTOBER 12, 1887.

NOTES.

BURYING TRANSVERSELY TO THE CHURCH.

The Church of Bistre is built north and south, and it is, perhaps, the only Church in the Diocese of S. Asaph which is so built. The graves lie in the direction of the church, and the late Vicar Jones expressed a wish that he should be buried east and west. His wish was complied with, and instead of facing his parishioners as was anciently the custom of burying priests, he lay crossways to them. But when a memorial was placed over his body this position was not observed, and the grave at present lies in the same direction as the others.

E.O.

AN ENGLISH BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WALES.—

What a great loss it is to the genuine Bibliographer that there is no good Bibliography of Wales in the English tongue. An enterprising publisher might certainly "strike oil" in this direction. The painstaking work on Welsh books by Rowlands—"Llyfrydiaeth y Cymry"—is Latin and Greek to the English student of books. A careful translation of this work, which only has notes of Welsh books published up to the year 1799, would be invaluable; a second volume could be added of "Books relating to Wales, or the product of Welshmen, for the Nineteenth Century." There have been hundreds, if not thousands, of books published in Wales and relating to Wales, during the past 87 years. Who will become the modern Welsh Dibdin or Allibone?

Brecknock.

EDWIN POOLE.

EDWARD LLOYD OF LLANFORDA, ESQ.

(October 5, 1887.)—The annexed extracts from the papers at the Record Office, London, in connection with the sequestration of the property of Edward Lloyd, of Llanforda, Esq., may illustrate the paper extracted from Mr. Stanley Leighton's MSS. published in *Bye-Gones* (Oct. 5, 1887.) The petition has at foot autograph signature of Edward Lloyd. "The Report" which follows is the usual Report drawn up by one of the masters in Chancery, and is a summary of the papers and evidence produced by the petitioner, which was an appeal against the Sequestration, and a prayer for a reasonable fine. The paragraph, which some of the Commissioners struck out (relating to the losses he sustained by General Mytton's burning of petitioner's Town property) seems to have been treated by them as deserving of no consideration in estimating the amount of his fine. The note at foot is the *decision* of the Commissioners sitting in London. There are other papers connected with the suit; one, a document which has the rare signature among these Royalist Composition Papers of *Oliver Cromwell*.

PEARMAN.

Vol. xxxviii., 2d Series, fo. 461,
To the right Hon^{ble}. the Commissioners for Composic^{on} and
with delinquents.

The humble *petition* of Edward Lloyd of Llanvardoe in
the County of Salop Esqre. sheweth

That yor. petitioner, was in arms against the Parliamt.
for which delinquencie his Estate is sequestered.

Hee humbly prayeth hee may bee admitted to a favour-
able Composition ffor his reall and personall Estate.
hee shall pray

EDW : LLOYD

Recd. the 14th April 1649

and referred to the Sub Committee

S. M. [oyer]

Jo. Leech.

—
Fo. 459.

Edward Lloyd of Llanvardoe in the County of Salop
Esquire.

Report on his Case.

*His delinquency that he was in Arms against the
P^{li}ament.*

*He petitioned here (1) the 14 April 1649, and craves the
benefit of the Articles of Pardon being comprised therein
as by Certificate from the Lord Generall & Comissary
Generall appeare.*

*He compounded upon a Particular deliuered in under
his hand By which he doth submit to such fine etc. And
by which (the particular) it doth appeare.*

*That by virtue of a conveyance made by John Lloyd,
Esq., the Compounder's father, bearing date the first of
febr, 6th Caroli upon the Compounder's marriage he is
seised of a frank-tenement for his life. Remainder to his
1, 2, 3, and every other of his sonnes in tayle with other
Remainders in taile the Remainder in fee to the right
heirs of his father of and in certaine Messuages, Lands,
& Tenements in Llanvardoe, Westbury, Krickieth, &
Oswestrie in the said County of Salop of the yearly value
of £80.*

*He saith there will remaine & come to him for his life
after ye decease of Mary Lettice Lloyd his mother cer-
taine other Lands in ye same Townes, w^{ch} he supposeth
to be of the yearly value of £36, but knows not the certain
value thereof. And therefore prays a sauing (2) to com-
pound for it when he can discover the true value £36.*

*He is seized of a like Estate of certaine chief rents in
Oswestree in the said county amounting p^r. ann. to 2*li*.*

*(3) That he was formerly seised in fee of certaine howses
in Oswestrie burnt downe by Colonell Mitton for safety of
the Garrison to his damage of — 2,000*li*., so that now
there remains only waste ground, w^{ch} he desires may be
taken into consideration.*

*His p^{er}sonall Estate in goods & household stuffe is of ye
value 25*li*., but he saith he owes by bond to severall p^{er}sons
— 1,000*li*.*

*24 May 1649. Fine upon "Truro Act," 22*li*., he
allegding and saith 66*£* p^r. ann. reversion is but 36*li*. p^r. ann.
for which I have Rebated 24*li*. and leaves the fine 200*li*.
June the 10. 1649. S. M. [oyer].*

463. A Particular of the Estate of Edward Lloyd of
Llanvardoe in the County of Salop Esqre.

He is seized for term of his owne life of an estate in
Llanvardoe within the County of Salop which was by
deede indented dated the 5th of February the 6th of the
late Kinge made betwixt John Loyd the compounder's
father on the first part and Sr. Ffrancis Kingeston and

other Ffeoffes on the 2d pt and Sr Edward Trevor on the
third parte in consideration of a marriage and 1,000 markes
porc^{on} with Ffrances daughter of the said Sr George
Trevor settled upon the compounder for life, the remainder
to his first 2d 3d 4th, & soe to his tenth sonne begotten or
to be begotten upon the body of the said Ffrances, and to
the respective heirs males of the bodyes of such respective
sonnes the remainder to John Lloyd, second sonne of the
said John Loyd the father for life the remainder to his
first and soe to his tenth sonne and to there respective
heares males, and for default of such heires males to
George Loyd third sonne of the said John Loyd the
father the remainder to his first and soe to his tenth
sonne, and to there respective heires males the remainder
to the right heires of John Loyd the father for ever out
of w^{ch} Estate the Compounder's parte amounteth to the
yearley value of 45*£*.

SALOP WILLS AT SOMERSET HOUSE.

During June and July of 1885, in company with
Mr E. Rowley Morris, I took out at Somerset House a
list of all Montgomeryshire wills and Welsh wills from
the Dioceses of Asaph and Bangor down to 1640. Mr E.
R. Morris at the same time extracted, in full, all the
Montgomeryshire wills for publication in the Mont-
gomery Collections of the Powis Land Club. The great
facilities afforded us by the Authorities at Somerset
House induced us to take advantage of the opportunity
to note also the Salop wills lying there. We found
these so numerous after 1558 that we were unable to
note them all, and, beyond excerpting a few of particu-
lar interest, we confined our entries to the wills from
Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Ludlow, and certain parishes on
the borders of Montgomeryshire. Through the kindness
of the Superintendent (Mr. Challenor-Smith), we had
access to a perfect list compiled by him down to the year
1558, and for the references given to that date we are
indebted to his list.

If the Treasury would print and publish
Mr Challenor Smith's list down to 1558, it
would confer a great benefit upon the army of
literary searchers, and at the same time secure an
enormous saving in useless searches and handling of the
huge tomes of registers. I trust these lists may stand
as a permanent point of reference, and that we and other
readers of the *Bye-Gones* may, as time passes on, be
able, by notes and references, to add to its interest and
value.

In the number of the Montgomeryshire Collections for
April, 1886, will be found a paper giving very full in-
formation as to the style in which the records have been
kept at Somerset House, and the best method of search-
ing for these ancient wills. H. L. SQUIRES.

Liverpool.

SHROPSHIRE.

SHREWSBURY.

No. Year.	Name.	Locality.	Reference.
1—1486—	Thomas Ottele.	S Julian's.	.24 Legge.
2—1487—	Richard Lawrence.	S Swythyn.	.4 Miles
3—1494—	John Otteley.	S Chad.	.14 Vox
4—1499—	William Mayne.		.4 Moore
5—1501—	David ap Llewelyn.	S Chaddes.	.23 Moore
6—1505—	Thomas Prowde.	Sutton.	.32 Holgrave
7—1505—	Thomas Thorny's.	S Chad.	.32 Holgrave
8—1505—	Yeuan (? Jevan) Vozaan (? Vaughan).	S Chad.	...39 Holgrave
9—1509—	Richard Lawrence.		.22 Bennett

(1) London.

(2) Marginal note "a sauinge for 6 weeks."

(3) This sentence has had a pen taken through it.

No. Year.	Name.	Locality.	Reference.	No. Year.	Name.	Locality.	Reference.
10-1510	William Pontesbury	.S Alkernund	.37 Bennett	84-1604	Humphrey Wilcox	.pro 20 Feb	
11-1511	William Prowde	.Sutton (2) .2	Fetiplace	85-1605	Thomas Rushton	.pro 21 June	
12-1515	Richard Pope	.S Chad F. .7	Holden	86-1605	Jehn Smith	.pro 21 June	
13-1516	Thomas Ottley	.S Alkernund	.26 Holden	87-1605	John Swanie al's	Medlicott	.pro 10 July
14-1519	George Ryland	.S Alkernund F. .16	Ayloffo	88-1606	Richard Poole	.pro 24 Oct	
15-1519	Phillip Roger	.S Chad. .18	Ayloffo	89-1603	Richard Owen	.Monks Fforiatt	.pro 4 Dec
16-1520	Richard Gittins	. .29	Ayloffo	90-1608	Elizabeth Lyster	.pro 19 Dec.	
17-1524	Richard Powell	.S Chad. .22	Bodfelde	91-1607	Lusie Studley	.pro 23 June	
18-1525	Richard Yemans, alias	Pynner	.S Julians. .37 Bodfelde	92-1608	Alice Puller	.pro 11 May	
19-1527	Richard Lyster	.S Chad. .19	Porch	93-1608	Richard Prowde	.pro 27 Aug	
20-1537	William Ottley	.Pitchford. .13	Jankyn	94-1608	William Ffalkener	.pro 21 March	
21-1533	Benes Benryw, alias	John Hewster	.S Hilarie. .5 Hogen	95-1609	Roger Warter	.pro 1 Nov	
22-1533	David Powes, alias ap	Griffith	.S Giles .7 Hogen	96-1609	Edmund Barkley	.pro 2 Mar	
23-1533	Robert Teuche	.S Chad. .11	Hogen	97-1609	William Metcalf	.pro 17 Mar	
24-1539	Robert Dudley, Esquier	.S Alkyndde	.27 Dyngseley	98-1610	William Powell	.pro 25 June	
25-1540	Christian Waryng	.S Chad. .6	Alenger. De Bonis Grant, 1592 .2 Spert	99-1611	John Cole, ar.	.pro 5 June	
26-1541	Thomas Hulston, alias	Barbour		100-1611	Adam Detton	.Sutton. .pro 10 June	
27-1543	Richard Brickdale	.S Chad. .27	Spert	101-1611	Joanna Erpe, vid.	.pro 4 Mar	
28-1545	William Woolle	. .36	Pynnyng	102-1612	Roger Marshall	.pro 17 Oct	
29-1546	William Ireland	.S Chade. .8	Alen F	103-1612	Richard Prince	.Fforiat Monachorum	.pro 13 Dec
30-1547	Roger Wylke (Wylke in filed will)	.S Chad. .33	Alen	104-1612	William Morrey	.pro 13 Feb	
31-1547	Thomas Prowde	.Sutton and Meole	Brace .22 Populwell	105-1613	Roger Jones	.pro 23 June	
32-1547	Davyd Fysshier	.S Chadd. .3	Populwell	106-1613	Humphrey Tomkis	.pro 3 Sep	
33-1549	John Mynton	.S Chadd. .5	Coode	107-1613	Edward Owen	.pro 18 Jan	
34-1550	George Pontisbury	Gent. .S Alkernunde	.29 Coode De Bonis Grant, 29 March, 1600	108-1614	Richard Betton	.pro 30 May	
35-1554	John Lyngen	.Sutton. .7	More	109-1614	Richard Witherley	.pro 30 May	
36-1554	Thomas Ireland	. .10	More	110-1614	Roger Sawyer	.pro 7 July	
37-1554	Cadwalader ap Robert	.S Chad. .19	More	111-1614	William Newmans	.pro 14 Oct	
38-1555	Thomas Colyns	.S Chadd. .25	More	112-1615	Robert Lee	.pro 28 Ap	
39-1555	John Kynaston	.S Chadd. .27	More	113-1615	Rowland Langley	.pro 13 May	
40-1557	Thomas Oseley	.East Foregate. .21	Wrastley	114-1615	Catherine Colton	.pro 7 July	
41-1553	Alice Hussey	.East Foregate. .33	Noodes (Double Probate Act, 1564, not in Act book)	115-1615	Alicia Anderton	.pro 9 Aug	
42-1558	Edward Watur Esquier	.S Dunstan W. .59	Noodes	116-1616	Robert Whittaker	.pro 27 May	
43-1561	Edward Newton	.proved July. .25	Loftes	117-1616	Edward Piers	.pro 30 May	
44-1561	John Halliwell	.pro Mar		118-1616	Robert Smith	.S Alkernund	.pro 10 Feb
45-1565	John Evans	.pro July		119-1616	Matthew Goldsmith	.pro 20 Feb	
46-1580	John Ditcher	.pro 28 Oct		120-1616	Adam Wrebe	.pro 6 Feb	
47-1585	John ap Griffith al's	Wyne	.pro 3 May	121-1617	William Davies	.pro 24 May	
48-1589	William Poyner	. "Fforiat Monasthor"	.pro 27 Oct	122-1617	Robert Draper Clive	.S. Marie	.pro 13 Feb
49-1591	Edward Harcodd	.pro 5 Mar		123-1617	Edward Dicher	.pro 3 Feb, also 19 June, 1618	
50-1591	Ievan ap David	.S Juliane	.pro 31 Mar	124-1618	Thomas Owen	.pro 17 Nov	
51-1591	George Higgins	.pro Oct 28		125-1619	David Pres	.pro 31 May	
52-1592	George Prowde	.S Juliane	.pro 14 Mar	126-1619	John Downes	.pro 29 July	
53-1592	Elizabeth Lewis	.pro 13 June		127-1619	John Gyttyns	.pro 8 Nov	
54-1592	Randolph Tonks	.pro 26 Aug		128-1619	Roger Blakeway	.pro 2 Dec	
55-1592	Thomas Hosier	.St Cedde	.pro 29 Aug	129-1619	Thomas Everall	.pro 10 Feb	
56-1592	Thomas Clerk	.pro 24 Oct		130-1620	Thomas Rocke	.Frankwell	.pro 13 Ap
57-1594	Hugh Evans	.pro 9 Feb		131-1620	George Benion	.Frankwell	.pro 17 May
58-1594	Randolph Purcell	.pro 12 May		132-1620	George Harecourt	.pro 8 July	
59-1594	Richard Owen	.pro 2 June		133-1620	Richard Rocke	.Abbey Fforiatt	.pro 24 Nov
60-1594	Richard Churley	.pro 5 July		134-1620	Catherine Mynton	.pro 17 Dec	
61-1594	John Dawes	.pro 19 July		135-1620	Elinor Powell	.pro 11 Jan	
62-1595	John Bowdler	.pro 16 Feb		136-1620	Richard Oteley	.pro 27 Jan	
63-1597	Francis Cook	.pro 12 Ap		137-1620	Richard Wynne	.pro 10 Feb	
64-1597	John Okell	.pro 27 Ap		138-1620	Catherine Wilton	.pro 27 Ap	
65-1597	John ap Rees	.Croft. .pro 30 Ap		139-1621	Margaret Ffalkener	.pro 2 May	
66-1597	Edward Ireland	.pro 8 Nov		140-1621	George Hosier	.pro 29 June	
67-1597	Marie Bewcole	.pro 21 Nov		141-1621	John Thomas	.pro 14 Nov	
68-1597	Richard Owen, sen.	.pro 4 Dec		142-1641	Margaret Baughe	.pro 20 Nov	
69-1597	John Brown	.pro 21 Jan		143-1621	John Witherley	.Leaton, S. Mary	.pro 25 Oct
70-1597	Edmund Clark	.pro 20 Mar		144-1621	Philip Maunsell	.pro 17 Jan	
71-1597	William Goodwin	.pro 19 June		145-1621	Daniel Hawkestead	.Abbey Fforiatt	.pro 18 Feb
72-1598	Humphrey Hylcher	.pro 23 May		146-1621	Richard Troist	.pro 18 Feb	
73-1598	John or Geoffery Bowen	.pro 24 May		147-1622	Thomas Mirksteed	.pro 11 May	
74-1599	Thomas ap Robert	.Frankwell	.pro Feb	148-1622	John Hussey	.pro 4 June	
75-1599	Richard Prince, Esquier	. "Monkes Fforyatt"	.pro 13 Feb	149-1622	John Niccolles, Alderman	.pro 23 Aug	
76-1600	William Peers	.pro 6 Dec		150-1622	Thomas Adams	.pro 27 Aug	
77-1601	Robert ap Owen	.pro 26 Aug.		151-1622	Humphrey Gouldsmith	.Abbey Fforiatt	.pro 27 Sep
78-1602	George Phillips	.pro 19 Ap		152-1622	Rees Griffith	.pro 10 Dec	
79-1602	Thomas Studley	.pro 6 July		153-1623	John Poyner	.pro 7 May	
80-1604	Thomas Mynor	.pro 9 May		154-1623	David Lloyd ap Roger	.pro 28 July	
81-1604	Robert Owen	.pro 18 May		155-1624	Richard Howells	.pro 7 March	
82-1604	Anne Nightingale	.pro 21 Aug		156-1625	Margery Wareing	.pro 1 Ap	
83-1604	Hugh Arrowsmith	.pro 23 Aug		157-1625	John Downes	.pro 25 Feb	
				158-1625	John Gardner	.pro 17 Mar	
				159-1626	William Barnes	.pro 17 May	
				160-1626	Thomas Butler	.pro 19 May	
				161-1626	Thomas Evans	.pro 10 July	
				162-1626	John Webb	.pro 5 Oct	
				163-1626	Gervase Sleigh	.pro 17 Oct	
				164-1626	Anne Hill	.pro 5 Novr	

No. Year.	Name.	Locality.	Reference.
165-1626	Thomas Bayley..	pro 29 Dec	
166-1627	Richard Higgons..	pro 25 Ap	
167-1627	Edward Price..Cedda..	pro 24 Ap	
168-1627	William Sherer..	pro 8 June	
169-1627	Thomas Ffawknor..	pro 20 Mar	
170-1628	Thomas Gardner..	pro 11 May	
171-1628	Edmund Towns..	pro 30 June	
172-1628	Richard Rocke..	Abbey Fforiatt..	pro 22 Aug
173-1628	Richard Scott..	pro 30 Sep	
174-1628	Richard Davies..	pro 25 Oct	
175-1629	Edward Mitton..	pro 12 May	
176-1629	John Ball..	pro 11 May	
177-1629	Edward Dunne, Alderman..	pro 18 June	
178-1629	Roger Pope..	S. Chad..	pro 27 June
179-1630	Sir Thomas Harries, Bart..	pro 24 Ap	
180-1630	David Holland..	pro 19 May	
181-1630	David Meredith..	pro 11 Sept	
182-1630	Nicholas Waring..	pro 9 March	
183-1631	William Caregge..	pro 20 Ap	
184-1631	William Greenewich, Archdn. of Salop..	pro 18 May	
185-1631	John Hunt..	pro 10 June	
186-1631	John Porter..	pro 27 June	
187-1631	Thomas Betten..	pro 10 Dec	
188-1631	Mary Ireland..	pro 31 Jan	
189-1632	Thomas Walker..	pro 13 Ap	
190-1632	Robert Stephens..	pro 23 July	
191-1632	Richard Price..	pro 12 Mar	
192-1633	Thomas Jones..	pro 30 June	
193-1633	Elleanor Rocke..	Monks Forriatt..	pro 25 Nov
194-1633	Margaret Evans..	S. Chad..	pro 21 Feb
195-1633	Richard Beddowe..	pro 25 Mar	
196-1634	Peter Studley..	pro 24 Jan	
197-1635	Richard Perschouse..	pro 19 June	
198-1635	William Griffiths..	pro 28 Nov	
199-1635	John Hall..	pro 6 Feb	
200-1635	Daniel Lewis..	pro 19 Mar	
201-1636	Thomas Higgons, S.T.P..	pro 25 May	
202-1636	Francis Fawknor..	pro 11 Nov	
203-1636	John Meighen..	pro 21 Nov	
204-1636	George Wright..	S. Chad..	pro 19 Nov
205-1636	Hester Ireland..	pro 27 Jan	
206-1637	Edward Owen..	pro 10 May	
207-1637	Samuel Lewis..	pro 30 June	
208-1637	James Atkinson..	pro 25 Aug	
209-1637	John Ridgway..	pro 5 Oct	
210-1637	Robert Williams	S. Chad..	pro 30 Dec
211-1637	Thomas Matthews..	pro 4 Dec	
212-1638	John Poyner..	pro 27 Ap	
213-1638	Richard Maunsell..	pro 23 May	
214-1638	Thomas Bromley..	pro 9 June	
215-1638	Richard Jones	pro 13 Nov	
216-1639	Anne Studley..	pro 20 May	
217-1639	John Wightwicke..	pro 25 May	
218-1639	Sarah Bromley..	pro 13 Nov	
219-1639	Thomas Rider..	pro 11 Feb	
220-1640	Richard Jones..	pro 14 May	
221-1640	Catherine Thurston..	pro 20 June	
222-1640	Geoffrey Beddowe..	pro 23 June	
223-1640	William Orton..	pro 20 Aug	
224-1640	Richard Hunt..	pro 14 Nov	
225-1641	Dorothy Trapps..	pro 27 May	

SHROPSHIRE.

GENERAL.

No. Year.	Name.	Locality.	Reference.
1-1391	Foulke Fitz Waryn, London &..	Salop..	2 Rous
2-1407	Fulk Fitzwaryn, London &..	Salop..	16 Marche
3-1417	William de Corve, clk., Stretton..	33 Marche	
4-1437	John de Corve, clk., Wenlock..	21 Luffenham	
5-1438	Lucy Constance L'Estrange, London..	Knockyn..25 Luffenham	
6-1447	John Brugge, London &..	Salop..	16 Rouse..dated 11 May, proved 9 July, 1443
7-1454	Fouke Eiton, Esquier, Schrawardine..	Tong..	2 Stokton
8-1465	Edward Leighton, Stretton-in-le-dale..	6 Stokton	
9-1456	Thomas Reynold..	Newport..	8 Stokton
10-1468	Sir William Vernon, Knt., Tong..	23 Godyn	
11-1496	Sir George Neville Knt., Lord Abergavenny..	Salop..	8 Horne

No. Year.	Name.	Locality.	Reference.
12-1496	Thomas Corbet, S. Christopher, London &..	Salop..	32 Vox
13-1500	Richard Pole or Poole..	Schrawardine..	1 Moore
14-1504	Richard Pontesbury, Midd'x &..	Salop..	12 Holgrave
15-1504	William Saunkey..	Leobolwood..	16 Holgrave
16-1507	John Sugar..	Kyulet..	25 Adeane
17-157	Marget Nicols..	Condover..	30 Adeane
18-1509	Thomas Pole..	Dawley..	17 Bennett
19-1510	William Dengayn..	Adderley..	33 Bennett
20-1511	Edw. Heyn, Gent., Clibory Mortimore..	5 Feti-place	
21-1513	Sir Robert Corbet, Knt..	Morton Corbet..	27 Fetiplace
22-1515	John Newport, 'Squier..	Hye Ercall..	8 Holden
23-1517	William Yorke..	Little Wenlock..	5 Aytoffe
24-1523	William Jenyns..	Longley..	35 Porch
25-1528	Sir John Lloyd, clk., Monslowe..	35 Porch	
26-1528	David Mathewe, Prest..	Counde..	41 Porch
27-1531	Mary Dodd, S. Magnus, London &..	Cloverley..	12 Thower
28-1532	John Frost..	Halesowen..	15 Thower
29-1532	John Salter, Esquier..	Newport..	21 Thower, Blake-way, p. 85
30-1533	Richard Higos..	Longedon..	11 Hogen
31-1534	Thomas Skirevea..	Condover..	15 Hogen
32-1536	Sir Thos. Lakyn, Knt., Wyllay..	34 Hogen	
33-1536	Richard Lewys..	Westhope..	34 Hogen
34-1537	John ap Howell..	Brownfield..	A.C. 1, p. 225
35-1538	Richard Jenkys, Halton..	Yetton F..	18 Dyngelley
36-1538	Roger Corbett..	Morton Corbett..	24 Dyngelley
37-1540	Will'm Gwynne, London, &c..	Salop F..	17 Alenger
38-1540	Millichepe Crowther..	Salop F..	20 Alenger
39-1541	William Watson..	Newport..	3 Spert
This will pronounced null and void by sentence, 1543 } 3 Spert			
40-1544	Will'm Lyngen	The Hurst..	Salop..9 Pynnyng
41-1545	John Bawghe..	Bytterley..	17 Wrastley
42-1545	Roger Davies, Radnor, Hereford &..	Norton F..	40 Pynnyng
43-1545	Roger Hughes (Clk., Pret. of Bristol)..	Wenlocke F..	5 Alen
44-1546	Thomas Mason..	Deilburye..	14 Alen
45-1547	Joane Baughe..	Bytterley..	47 Alen
46-1548	Sir William Essex, Knt, Kent, &c..	Salop..	12 Populwell
47-1549	William Hynton, London, S. Peter's, Cornhill..	Whit-church and Tarporely..	32 Populwell
1576 De Bonis Grant Sentence			
48-1549	John Dagar..	Condover F..	42 Populwell
49-1550	John Thomas, Hunts, &c..	Salop..	11 Coode
50-1550	Edmund Foxe, Hereford, Stafford, &c..	Ludford F..	28 Coode
51-1550	John Lyster..	Rowton F..	Blakeway p. 144, 5 Bucke
52-1551	Thomas Newport..	High Ercall..	Blakeway p. 83, 15 Bucke
53-1551	Thomas Madoxe..	Hopesay..	21 Bucke
54-1551	William Lucy, Esquier, Beds, &c..	Salop..	24 Bucke
55-1551	Thomas Tong..	Myddell..	25 Bucke
56-1551	Richard Collox..	Uffington..	29 Bucke
57-1551	Robert Owen, Ck., Shabery..	34 Bucke	
58-1551	John Smythe (Langford in sentence)..	Hencot..	9 Powell
59-1552	Reynold Williams, Esquier..	Moche Wollaston..	32 Powell
60-1553	Robert Evans, Flint, &c..	Condover..	19 Tashe
61-1554	Rauff Crosse..	Whittington..	2 More
62-1554	John Lyngen, Esquier, Herefd., Gloucestr, &c..	Sutton..	7 More
63-1554	George Vernon..	Hodnet..	18 More
64-1555	Robert Toye, London, S. Faihthe..	Mortilmas Cleberie	44 more
65-1555	John Kynaston..	Salop	
66-1556	Sir John Gage, K.G., West Firley, Sussex, &c..	Salop..	9 Ketchyn
67-1556	Thomas Hayward, Preste, Warwick, &c..	Salop..	2 Wrastley
68-1556	Richard Fowler..	Grendill..	8 Wrastley
69-1557	Edward Hopton..	Clunbury..	16 Wrastley
70-1557	Edward Mathewe, London, S. Sepulchre..	Whitting-ton..	18 Wrastley
Sentence 1558...28 Noodles			

No. Year.	Name.	Locality.	Reference.	No. Year.	Name.	Locality.	Reference.
71-1557	John Shere, ("Shery," a witness).	Wolstaston.	.29	142-1608	James Nicolls.	12 Dec..	Alveley
		Wra-trely		143-1608	George Harris.	27 Dec..	Higlie
72-1557	Roger Smyth, London, S. Edmonde	Lombard Streete		144-1608	Roland Laton.	9 Feb..	Kinlet
		.Browsley.	.30 Wrastley	145-1608	Roger Kinaston.	17 Feb..	Hordley..100 Windebank
73-1557	William Dalowe (?)	Milson..36 Wrastley		146-1609	Roger Skinner, Burton's.	15 May..	Ledbury
74-1557	John Hill, coundoutin, Warwick,	"Ruaford Wayer" ..		147-1609	Catherine Rudge.	30 May..	Claverley..120 Dorset
		Salop..51 Wrastley		148-1609	Elizabeth Lister.	14 June..	Broughton
75-1558	Edmund Sherman.	Cordey..14 Noodes		149-1609	Edward Rea.	6 Oct..	Billingsley..90 Dorset
76-1558	Henry Plowden, Esquier.	Plowden..20 Noodes		150-1609	Thomas Whittingham.	4 Nov..	Shavington..98 Dorset
77-1558	Richd. Chambers, alias Mylward, Gent.	Petton..25 Noodes		151-1609	Roger ap Edward, Tir-y-Cood.	17 Nov..	Kinsley (Kin-erley)..10 Dorset
78-1558	Sir Richard Broke, Kent, London, &c.	Salop..54 Noodes		152-1610	William Waters.	28 Ap.	Albrington
79-1558	Griffith Hinton, Gent.	Hinton..56 Noodes		153-1610	Robert Meredith.	17 Oct..	Dudleston-83 Wingfield
80-1558	Roger Brown.	Ashford Jones..61 Noodes		154-1610	Thomas Hall-17 Nov.	Ledbury	
81-1558	Thomas Higginson, Cotton.	Wemme..63 Noodes		155-1610	Francis Farmer.	13 Nov..	Stretton
82-1558	Richard Berrett.	Nyne Sollers..66 Noodes		156-1610	John Redge.	24 Nov..	Aston Piggott
83-1559	Dame Alyce Barne, The little S.	Bartholomew, London		157-1610	Hugh Wollaston.	7 Dec..	Trestoll
		Salop		158-1610	Roger ap John Vaughan.	19 Feb..	Ellesmere..9 Wood
84-1559	John Everall.	Kennerton..40 Chaynay		159-1611	Robert Lloyd, Dayllwell.	1668.	Whittington..Wood
85-1559	Nicholas Purcell, Esquier.	Dinthill..40 Chaynay		160-1611	Reginald Matthews.	15 June..	Conde
86-1559	William Willington, Esquier, Barchester, Warwick.	Salop..54 Chaynay		161-1611	Thomas Bowdler.	17 June..	Lebetwood
87-1563	Edward Mytton, Ar.	28 Feb..Hallston		162-1611	Humphrey Lloide.	18 June..	Whittington
88-1569	Elizabeth Middleton.	2 May..Prene		163-1611	Margaret Kinaston, Lower Hordley.	9 Nov..	Hordley
89-1575	Robert Baynes.	June..Thalauham?		164-1611	Thomas ap John ap Jenn.	27 Feb..	Whittington
90-1576	William Rayndge.	24 May..Whittington		165-1612	John Downe, Middlehope.	12 May..	Didlebury
91-1576	Robert Wright, alias Tailor.	25 May..Aston		166-1612	Edward ap Hugh.	17 May..	Alberbury
92-1577	Edward Lewis.	10 May..Broughton		167-1612	John ap Thomas.	18 May..	Wrockledine
93-1580	Matilda Clerk alias Singer.	25 Aug..Alberbury		168-1612	Reginald Corbett.	23 June..	Hampton
	1582-Elinor Leighton.	22 Feb..Condover		169-1612	William Corfield.	27 June..	Prene
94-1583	Robert Ireland.	3 Aug..Lithwood		170-1612	Edward Fforstei.	23 Oct..	Wating Streete
95-1583	Edward Mytton.	3 Aug..Chalston		171-1613	Richard Grosvenor.	5 May..	Norton in Hales
96-1583	Walter Corbett.	24 Sept..Morton Corbett		172-1613	Thomas Search.	9 Sept..	Ledbury
97-1584	Richard Jukes.	27 May..Upton Magna		173-1613	Richard Heynes.	23 Sept..	Condover
98-1585	John Broughton, Henley.	10 May..Bitterley		174-1613	Robert Madox.	14 Feb..	Ffrodeseley
99-1585	William Downe.	10 June..Mydloppe..27 Brudenell		175-1614	Jasper More.	25 May..	Larden
100-1589	John Phillips.	27 June..Crick Meole		176-1614	Alexander Wood.	7 June..	Blacke Abbeye
101-1590	Thomas Tibby.	25 Oct..Asterley		177-1614	George Ireland.	15 July..	Albrington
102-1591	Charles Fox.	1 July..Bromfield		178-1614	John Evans.	5 Aug..	Alberbury
103-1591	David ap Griffyn.	1 July..Hrsebearne		179-1614	Francis Wilcox, Kyton.	1 Sept..	Condover
104-1592	Edward Kynaston.	20 May..Hordley		180-1614	Richard Owen.	31 Oct..	Whitley
105-1592	John Medicott.	8 Sept..Wentnor		181-1614	Margaret Corfield.	7 Nov..	Prene
106-1592	Robert Griffith.	27 Oct..Brompton		182-1614	John Morgan.	10 Dec..	Astley
107-1592	William Phillips.	7 Dec..Crick Meole		183-1615	Richard Passie.	19 Ap..	Wigley
108-1593	Thomas Reynolds.	30 Jan..Crick Meole		184-1615	Thomas Newall.	22 May..	Ledbury
109-1593	Thomas Williams.	3 Feb..Eton		185-1615	Richard Corbett.	23 May..	Stoke
110-1593	Roger Cadman.	9 Mar..Sponelay		186-1615	Richard Hughes.	9 June..	Middle
111-1593	John Henson alias Harpet.	16 Mar..Kynnersley		187-1615	Humphrey Grafon.	31 Aug..	Broughton
112-1593	Randolph Blackwaie.	13 Ap..Esthopp		188-1615	Sir Henry Bromley, Knt.	24 Feb..	Shrawardine Castle
113-1594	David ap Owen ap Lewis.	27 Feb..Dudleston		189-1615	John Griffithes.	23 Ap..	Bedstone
114-1594	John Lawgton.	7 May..Beckurye		190-1615	Richard Beyton.	27 Ap..	Alberbury
115-1595	Hugh Price.	1 Nov..Bitterley		191-1615	Thomas Lynnte.	1 May..	Dreyton
116-1595	John ap Price.	6 Feb..Wentnor..68 Scott		192-1615	Anna Leighton.	13 May..	Halberley
117-1595	John Colbach.	18 Mar..Bitterley		193-1615	Lord Gilbert, Earl of Salop.	14 May	
118-1596	William Eyton.	18 Feb..Dudlister		194-1615	Richard Pinches.	25 June..	Lidley (?) Lindley
119-1597	Michael Newton.	13 Ap..Adcott		195-1616	Roger Powell.	12 Aug..	Stokesay
120-1597	Richard ap Dd ap Jenkin Daio.	11 June..Ellesmere		196-1616	Thomas Powell.	19 Oct..	Alveley
121-1598	Humphrey Eyton.	2 Nov..Eyton		197-1616	Nicholas Menlove.	Oct 23..	Buckley
122-1599	Thomas Owen.	28 Feb..Condover		198-1616	Ellene v. Williams.	11 Feb..	Harlestott
	Nuper Unus Instraat D ne Regine et Placitis Suis			199-1616	John Adams.	13 Feb..	Brosely
123-1602	William Hagley (Hatley in Calendar)-25 June..	Boxteede..29 Montagu		200-1616	Francis Broune.	19 Feb..	Bitterley
124-1602	William Churchman.	15 Sep..Munslowe		201-1617	Richard Lewes.	19 June..	Diddlebury
125-1602	Hugh Jones.	12 Feb..Melverley		202-1617	Edward Davies, Sutton.	10 Aug..	Westfelton
126-1602	Dowse v Richard vid.	8 June..Alberbury..39 Bolein		203-1617	Andrew Charles.	15 Nov..	Appley
127-1612	William Preese.	30 June..Bromfield		204-1617	Richard Jones.	1 Dec..	Lebotwood
128-1604	Catherine Griffiths.	26 Jan..Melverley		205-1617	Robert Corbett.	7 Feb..	Lawley
129-1604	David Jones.	12 Feb..Melverley		206-1617	Thomas Madox.	18 Feb..	Bridgnorth
130-1605	John Wheeler.	4 May..Ledbury		207-1617	John Baugh.	4 Feb..	Stokesay
131-1605	Robert Powell.	13 June..Park Hall..52 Hayes		208-1618	William Pearce.	3 Ap..	Condover
132-1605	Thomas Madox.	21 June..Astley..51 Hayes		209-1618	Edward Preston.	27 Ap..	Widmore
133-1605	Margaret White.	25 Feb..Meriden		210-1618	Margaret Poole.	29 May..	Empstreyp
134-1607	George Hinton.	13 June..Bitterley..52 Huddleston		211-1618	Antony Lewis.	28 Nov..	Wollaston
135-1607	Edward Vaughan.	25 June..Worstell..70 Huddleston		212-1618	Thomas Tomson.	24 Feb..	Astley
136-1607	John Lloid.	18 Nov..Piton..92 Huddleston		213-1618	Theodore Evans.	25 Feb..	Whittington
137-1608	John Grubbe.	3 June..Ledbury		214-1619	Henry Lane.	7 June..	Middleton Scriven
138-1608	William Leighton.	21 June..Plaisthe..51 Windebank		215-1619	William Barlow.	19 June..	Melverley
139-1608	Henry Broy.	11 July..Ledbury		216-1619	Thomas ap Meredith.	22 Nov..	St Martins
140-1608	Richard Corbett.	23 Sep..Alberbury		217-1619	William White.	11 Feb..	Alveley
141-1608	Roger Kinaston.	4 Nov..Lighteathe		218-1619	George Robstart.	2 Feb..	Oldburie
				219-1619	Margaret Kinaston.	20 Feb..	Ottley

No. Year.	Name.	Locality.	Reference.
220-1620	John Pearson.	10 Ap..Alveley	
221-1620	William Maunda.	23 June..Stokesale	
222-1620	George Wigearne.	27 June..Fforde	
223-1620	Edward Mytton.	30 June..Shipton	
224-1620	Richard Slaney.	20 July..de le Hem	
225-1620	Thomas Hill.	5 Nov..Ledbury	
226-1620	Francis Doughtie.	7 Nov..Muckley	
227-1620	Ieun ap David.	10 Nov..Middleton	
228-1620	John Pinches.	29 Jan..Rushbury	
229-1620	John Gittens.	2 Jan..Alberbury	
230-1620	Edward Hopton.	23 Mar..Hopton	
231-1620	Catherine Farmer.	5 May..Chetton	
232-1621	John Williams.	27 May..Weston Cotton	
233-1621	John Bright.	13 Nov..Munslowe	
234-1621	William Lane.	4 Dec..Ledbury	
235-1621	Sir Henry Townshend.	17 Dec, also 22 Feb..Counde	
236-1621	Richard Bushopp.	18 Dec..Kin'son	
237-1621	John Blunt.	23 Jan..Chetton	
238-1621	Thomas Farmer.	25 Jan..Chetton	
239-1621	John Maunde.	23 Jan..Acton Bwnnell	
240-1621	John Baylie.	31 Jan..Kinerley	
241-1622	Richard Corbett.	21 June..Allston	
242-1622	Margaret Holland.	9 Sept..Bromfield	
243-1622	Thomas Charlton.	11 Nov..Diddleston	
244-1622	Roger Vaughan.	3 Dec..Ellesmere	
245-1623	Thomas Bw iwin.	7 June..Diddleburie	
246-1623	Sir Vincent Corbett.	Knt..14 June..Morton Corbett	
247-1623	William ap David.	27 June..Kinnerley	
248-1623	Thomas Thornes.	27 June..Melverley	
249-1623	Thomas Evans.	11 June..Egerley	
250-1623	Thomas ap David.	27 July..Dudliston	
251-1623	William Benbowe.	Clk..11 Nov..E.thopp	
252-1623	William Gardener.	13 Mar..Condover	
253-1624	William Evans.	3 May..Alberbury	
254-1624	John ap David.	8 May..Dudliston	
255-1624	Evan ap David	10 June..Whittington	
256-1624	Beatrice Evans.	S. Mary Magd..19 June..Bridgnorth	
257-1624	John ap David.	8 June..Dudleston	
258-1624	Timothy Benyon	ap S. Smote..29 July..E.forde	
259-1624	Phillip Thomas.	13 Oct..New Marton	
260-1624	Richard Madocke.	23 Nov..Ledbury	
261-1624	George Powell.	4 Nov..Stokesale	
262-1624	Richard Gittens.	3 Feb..Middle	
263-1625	Anne Baylie.	23 May..Kinerley	
264-1626	John Reynolds.	14 Ap..Fforde	
265-1626	Roger Pynches.	19 May..Harley	
266-1626	William ap David.	Argode..26 May..Kinerley	
267-1626	Edward Hall.	19 May..Allscot	
268-1626	Francis Giffard.	27 June..White Ladies	
269-1626	Oliver Harries.	14 July..Higley	
270-1626	Jane Ellen Euer.	17 Sep..Porkington (Brogyntyn)	
271-1626	Sir Francis Eure.	14 Sep..Porkington	
272-1626	Agnes Dauett.	22 Nov..Westhope	
273-1626	Edward Hunt.	Longnor..30 Jan..Condover	
274-1626	Edmund Browne.	23 Feb..Condover	
275-1627	Elizabeth Leighton.	23 Nov..Woodhouse	
276-1627	Richard Gough.	27 June..Middle	
277-1627	Thomas ap John.	11 Feb..Melverley	
278-1623	Alice Harris.	vid-17 May..Higley	
279-1623	John Waters.	29 Aug..Madeley	
280-1623	Griffith ap John Thomas.	25 Oct..Hier Ridge	
281-1623	William Price.	Dudliston..9 Feb..Ellesmerc	
282-1629	John Hotchkiss.	3 Feb..Redge	
283-1630	Thomas Cowper.	16 Ap..Rushbury	
284-1630	Mary Price.	Dudliston..25 May..Ellesmere	
285-1630	Richard Reynolds.	3 Sept..Lythe (? Leydam)	
286-1630	Roger Powell.	21 Sep..Stokesay	
287-1630	William Whittington.	1 Dec..Moreton Say	
288-1630	Eliaser Jukes.	Maisbrocke..3 Jan..Kinerley	
289-1630	Margaret Davies.	4 Feb..Kinerley	
290-1631	Roger Thornes.	31 Oct..Melverley	
291-1632	John ap John	ap Richard..4 May..Dudliston	
292-1632	John Maddox	31 Oct..Astley	
293-1632	William Thomas.	24 Nov..Cotton	
294-1633	Edward Gethin.	Meusbrooke..12 June..Kinerley	
295-1633	John Vaughan.	13 Nov..Dudliston	
296-1634	Randolph Deya.	5 May..Acton Rounde	
297-1634	Sir Rowland Cotton.	Knt..14 Nov..Bellaport	
298-1634	Sir Chas. Fox.	Knt..7 Feb..Bromfield	
299-1635	Edward Kynaston.	30 Ap..Middleton	
300-1635	John Llewelin.	3 May..Egerley	

No. Year.	Name.	Locality.	Reference.
301-1635	John Kynaston.	18 Dec..Morton	
302-1635	Lewis ap Rees.	Weston, R'hin..5 Feb..St. Martins	
303-1635	Philip Huffa.	23 Feb..Middle	
304-1636	John Smith.	7 July..Trefleth (? Treflach)	
305-1636	Rees ap Evan.	5 July..Dudliston	
306-1636	Francis Ffox.	2 Nov..Br midfield	
307-1637	Lady Joyce Cotton.	9 June..Bellaport	
308-1637	Roland Maddox.	29 Aug..Astley	
309-1637	John Harris.	31 Oct..Harley	
310-1637	George Harris.	4 Nov..Boreatton	
311-1638	Richard Griffith.	23 Ap..Stowe	
312-1638	John Lewis.	10 Aug..Bitterley	
313-1638	Thomas Stanley.	Gent..17 Feb..Knockin	
314-1638	Joyce Norton.	2 Aug..Halton	
315-1638	William Kerry.	7 Aug..Bryn-Weston	
316-1638	Thomas Baker.	31 Oct..Sweeney	
317-1639	Stephen Crosse.	5 Feb..Longdon	
318-1640	Thomas Shery.	Fforton..16 May..Monford	
319-1640	John Williams.	8 May..Alberbury	
320-1640	Thomas Wilcox.	27 June..Heys	
321-1640	Thomas Jennynghs.	Dudleston..4 July..Ellesmere	
322-1640	William Owen.	Clife..29 Oct..Borrington	
323-1640	Jane Norton.	23 Nov..Church Stretton	
324-1640	Robert ap David.	12 Feb..Llangymock	
325-1640	John Harris.	26 Feb..Higley	
326-1640	Roger Powell.	22 Feb..Stokesay	
327-1641	Thomas Cokoley.	9 Ap..Hencott	
328-1611	John Gough.	31 May..Yorton	
329-1641	Sir Edward Kinaston.	Knt..2 Nov..Ottley	

SHROPSHIRE.

BORDER.

No. Year.	Name.	Proved.	Locality.	Reference.
1-1407	John Lanton.	Esquier, S Benet.	Poleswharf, London	
			15 Marche	
2-1443	John Brugge.	London & Salop.	16 Rouse	
3-1454	Sir Roger Skylla.	Rector of..Worthen.	2 Stokton	
4-1457	David Chirbury.	Bishop of Dromore.	Salop..9 Stokton	
5-1507	John Roberts.	Wilmington..Chirbury.	24 Adeane	
6-1507	Bedo Bagh (bach).	Bishops Castle..23 Adeane		
7-1519	Sir Thomas J-nyns.	Pontesbury..17 Ayloffe		
8-1526	Lewis ap Howell.	Westbury..9 Porch		
9-1542	David ap Evan.	Westbury..17 Spert		
10-1542	Fraunce Lyngen.	Bishops Castle..12 Spert		
11-1543	Thomas Wilding.	Westbury..19 Spert		
12-1551	Roger Farmer	of "Wostemynde"..Worthen..4 Powell		
13-1551	Thomas Maddox.	Hopesay		
14-1557	Edward Hopton.	Clunbury..16 Mastley		
15-1553	Richard ap Howell	ap Ed.nhope..Worthen..4 Welles		
15a-1553	Henry Plowden.	Esq..Plowden..20 Noodes..Blake-way, fol 166		
16-1553	John Walcotte.	Gent..Walcotte..41 Welles		
17-1564	Thomas Corbet.	Augt..Astley		
18-1638	Maurice Vaughan.	7 July..Clun		
19-1574	John Smoute.	Chirbury..45 Martyn		
20-1577	Edward Lewis.	Broughton		
21-1578	Robt Vaughan	alias ap Dd Leighton..Worthen..Adm'n		
22-1584	Hugh ap Matthew.	9 May..Westbury..11 Sheffield		
23-1584	Thomas Marston.	8 Oct..Middleton..27 Watson		
24-1584	Humphrey Lucas.	27 Oct..More..29 Watson		
25-1585	Howell Gough.	18 May..Lydham..23 Watson		
26-1585	Ieun ap Howell	ap Matthew..23 Jan..Llanfairwater-dine..3 Brudenell		
27-1585	John Thomas.	12 May..Clun..50 Brudenell		
28-1585	Antony Jones	2 Dec..Bishops Castle..56 Brudenell		
29-1587	Lewis Meredith.	13 May..Bishops Castle		
30-1587	David Froulle	ap J.s Barrett, Balesley..4 July..Alber-bury..44 Spencer		
31-1587	John Stephens.	22 Aug..Mynsterley		
32-1589	John Patrick.	8 Oct..Pontesbury		
33-1590	Thomas Lloide.	Castelwright..6 July..Mainstone..46 Drury		
33-1590	Reginald Williams.	16 Dec..Westbury..80 Drury		
34-1590	Thomas Tybby.	25 Oct..Astley		
35-1592	John Redge.	Wilmington..5 Apl..Chirbury..41 Neville		
36-1593	Thomas Ffox.	Walop..22 May..Westbury		
37-1593	Thomas Jones.	6 Nov..Bishop's Castle		

No. Year.	Name.	Proved.	Locality.	Reference.
38-1594	Rowland Cowper.	4 Mar.	Pontesbury.	.20 Scott
39-1594	Thomas Shuker, Welboche.	.29 Nov.	Bishop's Castle	
40-1595	Anne Phellippes.	Westbury		
41-1595	Roger Wilcoxe,	Wensley.	.10 Feby.	Westbury..
	9 Drake			
42-1596	Edmond Gough.	.28 Feb	Westbury	
43-1596	Richard Davys.	.14 May.	Llanfairwaterdine	
44-1596	Andrews Wilcoxe	"Keyley".	.20 Oct.	Pontesbury
45-1597	William Mason	17 Ap.	"Ledom"	
46-1593	Richard Speake	.7 June.	Chirbury.	.42 Lewyn
47-1599	Edward Ffoxe.	.26 Nov.	Greete	
48-1599	Richard Powell.	.19 May.	Worthen	
49-1601	Howell ap Griffith.	.9 Jan.	Llanfairwaterdine	
50-1602	George Aldwell.	.1 May.	Chirbury.	.36 Montagu
51-1602	William Higgons.	.9 Aug.	Pontesbury.	.57 Montagu
52-1603	William Ffoxe.	.18 Ap.	Chirbury.	(? co. Warwick)
53-1603	Henry Davys.	.31 Mar.	Llanfairwaterdine.	.?45 Harte
54-1604	Richard Deyos,	Yockleton.	.8 May.	Westbury..
	41 Harte			
55-1605	Richard Bechfield.	.9 Oct.	Chirbury.	.69 Hayes
66-1605	John Baldwin.	.9 Nov.	Mainstone.	.83 Hayes
57-1606	William Speake.	.24 Mar.	Chirbury.	.26 Huddleston
58-1606	William ap Ieu'n.	Bettws.	.15 Stafford	
59-1609	John ap Howell	ap Rees.	.18 May.	Perlogue, Clun..
	60 Dorset			
60-1609	Charles Fox.	.31 Jan.	Bromfield	
61-1609	Thomas Burnell,	Onslow.	.27 June.	Pontesbury
62-1609	Thomas Witherley.	.27 Jan.	Paynston.	Pontesbury
63-1610	John ap Evan.	Llanfairwaterdine.	.69 Wingfield	
64-1611	Richard Griffith.	.20 Nov.	Mainstone.	.88 Wood
65-1611	James Wilcox.	.14 Feb.	Pontesbury	
66-1611	Henry Vaughan.	.28 Feb.	Mainstone	
67-1611	Joanna Thinne.	.4 Mar.	Caures Castle	
68-1611	Arthur ap Griffith.	.23 Mar.	Llanfairwaterdine	
69-1612	Elizabeth Higgons.	.24 Oct.	Pontesbury	
70-1613	Hugh Lloyd.	.29 June.	Trevodryr	
71-1613	Edward ap Edward.	.17 Oct.	or Nov.	Ridge..110
	Capell			
72-1613	Humphrey Heycockes.	.3 Decr.	Bettwsycrwn	
73-1613	David ap Edmond.	.17 Nov.	Lidbury North.	.106
	Capell			
74-1614	William Scarlet.	.21 May.	Hoggestowe,	Worthen
75-1614	Thomas Gough.	.30 May.	Westbury	
76-1614	Hugh Moris,	clerk.	.18 June.	Alberbury
77-1614	Richard Gardiner.	.12 July.	Worthen	
78-1614	Robert Bright.	.19 Oct.	Ledom	
79-1614	Thomas Mynde.	.25 Nov.	Myndtown	
80-1614	Thomas Davies.	.17 Nov.	Worthen	
81-1614	Robert Townesend.	.26 Feb.	Llanfairwaterdine	
82-1615	Thomas Lyngen.	.28 June.	Westbury	
83-1616	Thomas Browne.	.26 Ap.	Moore	
84-1617	Richard Harris.	.15 May.	Westbury	
85-1617	Richard Phillips.	.7 July.	Pontesbury	
86-1617	Rowland Barwicke.	.24 Nov.	Pontesbury	
87-1618	Oliver Matthews.	.11 Ap.	Bishopscastle	
88-1618	Richard Lloyd.	.4 May.	Aston	
89-1618	John Harries.	.21 Sep.	Westbury	
90-1619	John Newall.	.4 June.	Westbury	
91-1619	Richard Blunden,	ar.	.3 Sept.	Bishopscastle
92-1619	Henry Griffiths.	.29 Nov.	Worthen	
93-1621	John Grendle.	.9 June.	Chirbury	
94-1621	John Bright.	.17 Nov.	Lidbury North	
95-1622	George Bright.	.17 July.	Liddom	
96-1622	John Weall.	.19 July.	Bettws	
97-1622	Maria Noniley.	.2 Dec.	Pontesbury	
98-1622	Evan ap Matthew.	.8 July.	Llanfairwaterdine	
99-1623	James Lewis.	.20 Oct.	Mainstone	
100-1623	Richard Jenks.	.1 Dec.	"Clanne" (Clun)	
101-1623	Edmund Aldwell.	.17 Feb.	Chirbury	
102-1623	John Calcot.	.28 Ap.	Pontesbury	
103-1623	William Applebury.	.1 May.	Pontesbury	
104-1623	John Griffiths.	.7 May.	Clunbury	
105-1623	Hugh Parkes.	.28 May.	Clunbury	
106-1624	Edmund Lloyd,	Stockton.	.14 Sept.	"Churbury"
107-1624	Jane Clun.	.27 Nov.	Clun	
108-1625	David ap Griffith.	.18 Feb.	Mainstone	
109-1625	Robert Cloughe.	.18 May.	Minsterley	
110-1625	Jane Jarks.	.21 Jan'y.	Westbury	
111-1625	Henry Kerry.	.30 Jan'y.	Worthen	
112-1626	Robert ap Reynald,	Dudston.	.29 Sept.	Chirbury
	110 Hele			

No. Year.	Name.	Proved.	Locality.	Reference.
113-1626	William Randle,	Fflemmington.	.17 Oct'r.	Westbury
114-1626	Rowland ap John.	.2 Nov.	Cherburie	
115-1626	Catherine Edwards.	.29 Nov.	Worthen	
116-1626	Hugh Tibby,	Asterley.	.22 Nov.	Pontesbury
117-1627	Edmund Tipton,	clerk.	.25 Ap.	Pontesbury
118-1627	Richard Powell.	.15 May.	Worthen	
119-1627	Hugh Speake.	.19 Oct.	Rorrington	
120-1627	John Peers,	"Marsh".	.21 May.	Westbury
121-1629	George Lloyd,	Marton.	.12 May.	Chirbury 45 Ridley
122-1629	Thomas Deyos.	.8 Aug.	Westbury.	.77 Ridley
123-1629	George Griffiths,	Sybscott.	.23 Nov.	Pontesbury
124-1629	Walter Stephens,	clk.	.18 Feb.	Bishopscastle..12
				Scroope
125-1629	Wattew Bowens.	.17 Feb.	Clun..	12 Scroope
126-1630	Thomas Brooke.	.5 July.	Hyssington	
127-1630	Stephen ap Evan.	.29 Nov.	Bettws-y-crwn	
128-1630	Mary Pondell,	"Ffannington" (Vennington).	.4 Feb.	
	Westbury			
129-1630	Richard Evans,	Wigmore.	.9 Feb.	Westbury
130-1631	John Beste.	.25 Feb.	Llanfairwaterdine	
131-1632	William Ryder.	.30 Ap.	Pontesbury	
132-1632	Roger Howells,	Whitcot Keysett.	.15 Feb.	Clun
133-1633	Catherine Onslow.	.14 May.	Llanymynech	
134-1633	Richard Powell,	Ar.	.20 May.	"Edenop"
135-1634	Richard Antony,	Eaton.	.27 Aug.	Lidbury N.
136-1634	Hugh Matthews.	.31 Oct.	Llanfairwaterdine	
137-1635	Maria Corbet.	.17 May.	Pontesbury	
138-1636	Thomas Atkinson.	.5 July.	Clun	
139-1637	Oliver Roberts,	Yockleton.	.23 June.	Westbury
140-1637	John Edwards.	.6 Feb.	Rorrington	
141-1638	Edward ap Ievange.	.25 Ap.	"Llanherie"	
142-1638	Elizabeth Hadley.	.8 Sep.	Stockton	
143-1638	William Rickley	(in margin, Ruckley).	.17 Sep.	
	Linley			
144-1638	Thomas Bowyer.	.25 Sept.	Westbury	
145-1638	Edmund Medicott.	.27 Mar.	Pontesbury	
146-1639	Reginald Corbett.	.13 Aug.	Pontesbury	
147-1639	Richard Deacon,	Apsley.	.29 Oct.	Stockton
148-1639	John Parry,	London.	.31 Oct.	Pontesbury
149-1639	Hugh Saies (Sayce now).	.22 Nov.	Bishopscastle	
150-1639	Humphrey Overton.	.11 Nov.	Linley	
151-1639	Anne Mathewe,	vid.	.5 Feb.	Rhiston
152-1640	Richard Ffewtrell,	Downe.	.23 Ap.	Stockton
153-1640	William Harris,	Yockleton.	.17 June.	Westbury
154-1640	Owen Evans.	.17 June.	Llanfairwaterdine	
155-1640	Thomas Lacon,	Ar.	.19 Sept.	"Linlie"
156-1640	John Higgins,	"Winsburie".	.22 Nov.	"Cherburie"
157-1640	Edward Langford.	.4 May.	"Bethhouse" (Bettws?)	
	70 Coventry			

LUDLOW.

No. Year.	Name.	Proved.	Locality.	Reference.
1-1407	John Lanton, Esquier,		Poleswharf,	
	S Benet		..London...	15 Marche
2-1448	Walter Codur			..13 Rous
3-1488	Richard Sparch fourde..		..Bristol and Ludlow...	13 Milles
4-1493	Robert Toy.			..25 Hoore
5-1600	William Gery.		..London & ..	2 Moore
6-1504	Thomas Eytton "Alisbury"		..Bucks & ..	
7-1506	Edward Haseley, Clk.		..S Marys Ludlow..	9 Holgrave
				15 Adeane
8-1513	Thomas Cook Esquier.			..17 Fetiplace
9-1513	John Williams.			..23 Fetiplace
10-1519	William Russell ..			..22 Ayloffe
11-1523	John Staunton, Mortlake..		..Surrey & ..	18 Bodfelde
12-1538	Alice Lane.			..20 Dynegeley
13-1540	Sir William Sutyard, Knt.			..6 Alenger
14-1550	Marjery Lonforde formerly			..29 Coode
	Whittall			10 Ketchyn (1556)
15-1552	John Cragge.			..5 Taske
16-1553	William Langford (Longford in Marglin)		De bonis	
			Grant, 1564.	.27 Taske
17-1554	William Ffoxe.			..29 Taske
18-1558	George Phillips, Salop.		..Oxford, Bucks.	42 Welles
19-1571	Walter Morton.			..5 Fetiplace
20-1572	Eliseus Evans.	.22 Nov		
21-1585	Richard Heath.	.28 June		
22-1585	Roger Clerk.	.4 Dec.		

No.	Year.	Name.	Proved.	Locality.	Reference.
23	1594	George Wilkes.	.2	June	
24	1594	Thomas Beche.	.1	Feb	
25	1603	Henry Moreton.	.27	May	
26	1602	David ap John Philip.	.9	Aug	
27	1603	Thomas Evans.	.7	Nov	
28	1603	Thomas Saunders.	.23	Decr	
29	1604	John Buston.	.27	Sept	
30	1605	John Waters.	.24	Feb	
31	1606	Thomas Bowdler.	.7	June	
32	1607	Edmund Lloyd.	.21	May	
33	1608	John Waties.	.12	Aug	
34	1609	Richard Chrawley.	.21	Oct	
35	1610	Phillip Wallis.	.7	July	
36	1610	Richard Nightingale Mr.	.14	Sept	
37	1612	Catherine Greenewaye	.15	Ap	
38	1612	John Price.	.25	Ap	
39	1614	Lady Catherine Fox, wife of Sir Wm Fox, Knt.	.2	Dec	
40	1616	Margaret Bowen.	.18	June	
41	1617	William Sedgwick.	.4	Sep	
42	1617	Thomas Candland.	.10	Oct	
43	1618	Robert Bery or Bury.	.Ar.	.9 June	
44	1619	William Bevan.	.10	Dec	
45	1619	Richard Nightingale.	.20	Jany	
46	1620	Richard Pickering.	.10	June	
47	1620	William Griffith.	.15	Aug	
48	1620	William Nightingale.	.5	Jany	
49	1621	Jane Hughes.	.17	Nov	
50	1623	Thomas Powell.	.10	Feb	
51	1624	William Sedgwick.	.3	June	
52	1624	William Reignolds.	.17	Nov	
53	1624	Alice Jenks.	.19	Nov	
54	1624	Francis Bostley.	.2	Dec	
55	1625	Andrey Hughes.	.13	Dec	
56	1626	Elizabeth Griffith, vid.	.21	Sep	
57	1627	Catherine Cunn.	.14	Nov	
58	1628	Henry Piers.	.2	Jan	
59	1628	John Browne.	.19	Mar	
60	1629	Richard Gwillim.	.11	Dec	
61	1629	Roger Vaughan.	.25	Jany	
62	1630	John Wall.	.29	Ap	
63	1631	Jonas Doe.	.6	May	
64	1631	James Walter.	.7	May	
65	1631	Henry Pritchard.	.10	June	
66	1631	William Floyd.	.20	August	
67	1631	Richard Mytton.	.31	Aug	
68	1631	Margaret Perks.	.23	Sep	
69	1633	Thomas Colricke.	.11	Oct	
70	1634	John Cupper.	.10	Sep	
71	1634	Richard Fisher.	.15	Nov	
72	1634	David Morton.	.17	Feb	
73	1635	Isabella Reynolds.	.3	Mar	
74	1638	Simon Bradshaw.	.13	Ap	
75	1638	Daniel Morton.	.3	Dec	
76	1638	William George.	.Overton.	.10 June	
77	1639	Elizabeth Webb.	.11	Nov	
78	1640	William Bullock.	.29	Ap	
79	1640	Thomas Pringle.	.10	Oct	
80	1640	Walter Philipps.	.5	Mar	
81	1641	Elizabeth Aston.	.12	June	
82	1641	Mary Marvin.	.3	July	
83	1641	Thomas Aldwell.	.17	July	

OSWESTRY.

1	1403	David Edmonde, clk	.18	Maynwaring
2	1489	Richard Morton, Middx, Surrey	.Salop	.30 Mills
3	1497	Sir John Saim.	.6	Wattys
4	1517	Thomas Salter, Middx, London	.S. Pulch	.14 Thower
5	1532	Thomas ap Meredith ap Richard,		
6	1534	John Draper	.23	Hogen
7	1537	John ap David ap Reys		
8	1539	Lewis ap Dd, otherwise Frysher	.6	Alenger
9	1539	John ap David ap Rhys—Bye-Gones	.23/6/36	.31 Dyngelley
10	1540	Johanne Draper	.6	Alenger
11	1540	Richard Strange	.5	Alenger
12	1541	Robert ap Howell	.36	Alenger
13	1542	Richard Staney	.13	Sperit
14	1547	David ap Lewis		
15	1547	Lewis ap David alias Ll'n Fryshr	.3	Populwell
16	1553	D'd ap Yellen ap D'd ap Iev'n		17 Tashe

No.	Year.	Name.	Proved.	Locality.	Reference.
17	1555	Anna Blakeway			
18	1559	Gwen V. Meredith.	.30	Chaynay	
19	1563	Robert Lloyd.	.April		
20	1564	Maurice Kynlet	.May		
21	1568	Edward Mytton—Ar.	"Hallston"—Feb.	28	
22	1579	William Kilam.	.adm. Sept.	18	
23	1581	Alexander Calld, "Coedigo"	.20	April	
24	1586	Richard Williams.	.Aug.	9	
25	1597	Lewis ap John up Howell.	.17	June..	63 Cobham
26	1604	Thomas Jennings.	.7	Aug	
27	1604	Evan Jones, mercer.	.26	March..	45 Harte
28	1607	William Meredith.	.13	Dec	
29	1608	Edward Baker.	.20	Dec	
30	1610	Evan David Lloyd.	.15	June	
31	1611	Jane V. Llewelyn.	.13	July	
32	1612	Jane Lloyd.	.11	July	
33	1613	Edward Griffith.	.8	Feb	
34	1613	John Tarbocke.	.23	Mar	
35	1614	Roger Edwards.	.13	Jan	
36	1615	Edward Williams.	.14	Ap	
37	1616	Roger Edwards.	.29	Nov	
38	1620	Richard Jones.	.9	Nov	
39	1623	John Glover, Uttin.	.7	Nov	
40	1625	John Gough.	.11	Feb	
41	1631	Humphrey Kynaston.	.30	June	
42	1631	Ellis Lloyd.	.27	July	
43	1634	Richard ap Robert.	.20	May	
44	1634	John Blodwell.	.7	July	
45	1635	Richard Wilcherley.	.10	July	
46	1638	Hugh Muckleston.	.22	May	
47	1640	Elizabeth Hynde.	.15	June	

QUERIES.

THE POPULATION OF WALES.—Is there any way of approximately ascertaining the population of Wales in, say, 1400, 1500, 1600, and 1700? We have the census since 1501. W.O.

MONTGOMERY TOWN.—GOD'S WELL.—Is there any well in the town of Montgomery known by this name? That there was one there in the last century, the following extract from a "Presentment" by the Sergeants at Mace will clearly show:—"We present a street as being out of repair leading from a well, commonly known as God's Well, to the Town Hall." It would be interesting to know how it came to have such an appellation. PEARMAIN.

ARMS.—In a Peniarth MS. of Griff. Hiraethog, circa 1538, there is this note:—"Emral ar parapet: arian Kroes: flori sable: ssabl fret arian." Meaning of course, 1 & 4, arg. a cross flory sa. 2 & 3 sable a fret arg. Now these arms suggest the Vernons to me, but the colours are reversed. What is the history? Emral belonged to Emma Audley; and it is not recorded how it passed to the Puleston family.

Sulhamstead Park, Berks.

E. E. THOYTS.

REPLIES.

HARVEST CUSTOMS IN SHROPSHIRE AND WALES (Sep. 23, 1887).—I have myself witnessed the custom of "Cutting the Gonder's Neck" in this parish (Tregynon) some twenty years ago, much in the manner described by Miss Burne: I have also seen the neck hung up. The fact of the scythe having superseded the sickle in the cutting of wheat will to some extent account for the decline of this custom. The custom of "Crying the Mare" is still observed in this district; but it is rather regarded now as a display of bad taste, for the unfortunate farmer to whom the "Mare" is sent often considers it an insult. Another custom, traces of which

remain, was that of "Eating the Harvest Goose," or first goose of the season, on the occasion of finishing the harvest; but the upsetting of a load either on the field or in transit to the stackyard (if it reached the yard it was safe) debarred from the enjoyment of the privilege: great care was therefore taken to avoid this, or "the Harvest Goose was lost." If a "pitcher" on the field, or an unloader in the stackyard, happens to let go his pikel, he is said to lose his wages for the day; which seems to suggest that such was in reality the case in days gone by.

T.H.J.

The custom of "Crying the Mare" is remembered here, but it has been discontinued 40 or 50 years. I well remember being at a harvest finished or harvest home here (Baschurch) about 58 years ago. The workmen formed themselves in a circle, linked hands, and bawled out with all their might:—

Oc! Oc! Oc! Oc! To!! ber,
Harvest is all over,
John Moon-Croft for ever!
Hip, hip, hip, hurrah, hurrah, hurrah!

Dr. Moon-Croft was then owner of the Llys House and farm, and Roff y Spetty estate by Oswestry. Then the "best how'd drink" was passed round in a huge wooden bottle, and many a gulp was told by the working of their throttle, and after several hip, hip, hip, hurrah's, all in chorus, a few simple games began. But one seemed to me a most serious affair, which perhaps makes me so well remember it. The "how'd maester," Dr John Moon-Croft, stood like a statue, whilst one of the harvest men, an old pensioner, named Mason, "cut six" about his head, well primed, and well pleased that the doctor's "yed was left on his shewthers" for him to order them some more doses from the bottle. They ever and anon continued their hip, hip, hip, hurrah, and ended with a good substantial harvest supper of fitchet pie, &c. The good old beer of those days, brewed alone from malt and hops, did the poor fellows good, put life and spirit into them, and they ate, drank, and were strong and merry. But now the modern brewer's drugs make them feel like sluggish slugs, and it's a "nation shame" that the national beverage should be allowed to be made so as to poison the people.

R.J.

P.S.—The Pensioner also shouldered a pikel, and showed us how he tossed the French over his "shewthers," like haymaking, with his "bayonet."

The same custom as that mentioned by Miss Burne prevailed until lately in the Vale of Clwyd. The men, after having finished reaping all the wheat on the farm, used to leave a tuft of corn uncut in some convenient part, and before leaving the field they threw their sickles from a certain distance, and the first that cut the straw would be considered the most expert reaper. My informant, a local Welsh bard bordering on 80 years of age, does not remember any rhyme or doggerel used on the occasion. The chief time in former days on all the large farms in the Cain, Tanat, and Yale Valleys, was the "Diwyrnod y Fedel Fawr" (the great reaping day). The farmers fixed convenient days for themselves, being always the first day they commenced cutting wheat, when all the reapers in the neighbourhood would often assemble at one farm, and then in turn at other farms

the following days. Home-brewed ale was given in abundance, and the reapers whilst under its influence would race very often for the first along the ridges. As soon as the new wheat was fit, a small quantity was sent to the village mill to be ground, and a cake was made with the flour, which was considered a great treat. During the process of carrying the corn some farmers were very particular with the loads, not considering them safe if they could not hear the waggon shaking whilst the men were pulling the ropes. Others were very much against using the scythe to cut the wheat, as they considered the hook much better, and the cutting a great deal cleaner. It was the custom after loading the last load of corn to give a hearty hurrah on the field, and to adorn the horses with branches from the different trees. When the work was finished the men were invited to a substantial supper to celebrate "Tori pen y Cynhauaf" (literally "cutting the head of the harvest," meaning finishing it), when beer was freely supplied, and the rustic bard, like Harry Craig y Gath, was invited to sing his summer carol, which contained observations on every occurrence which had happened during the year. A fiddler was also engaged, and dancing was kept up in harmony until a late hour. This is how the harvest customs were kept in "Cymru Fu."

Llwyn Dedwydd.

LLYWARCH HEN.

I have heard old people speak of "Crying the Mare" in this district (Oswestry), but have never witnessed it within my own recollection, which extends to about fifty years. Cheering or jeering the laggards is frequently indulged in at the present time—more's the pity—as it is oftener a misfortune than a fault.

But there is a custom in our harvest fields which you may think worthy of note, of the mowers' standing in a circle, and passing the wooden bottle around *with the sun*. In reference to this the enclosed little song by the writer was published in one of the earlier numbers of the *Oswestry Advertiser*. It is hardly consistent with modern ideas of temperance, for alack! and alas! jollity seems to be out of date altogether, although there is no doubt it is conducive to longevity; so after all

"Give me the good old customs of the days gone by."

SONG OF THE MOWERS.

Come, lads, let's with the sun pass round
The invigorating beer;
Whoever has the Mower found
Whose heart it would not cheer;
It gives strength to his brawny arms
To whet the ringing scythe;
It cools our thirst, our hearts it warms,
And makes us gay and blithe.

Chorus—Then hurrah! for the mower,
A jovial man is he;
He whets his whistle and his scythe,
Then goes to work with glee,
Singing "Steady, boys, steady,"
Let's all strike together,
The time to mow, and make our hay
Is sunshiny weather.

Unlike old Death, who doth not rest,
But ever mows away
Till noontide comes we'll do our best
To cut the scented hay,

Then underneath a shady tree
 We'll sit down on the ground,
 And then with joyous mirth and glee,
 We'll pass the bottle round.
 Then hurrah ! for the mower, &c., &c.

J. J.

WELSH MAGISTRATES (Sept. 21, Oct. 5, 1887.)
 I annex a list of Breconshire Magistrates of the year 1559, whose names appear on a Gaol File of the Sessions held in March of that year. This is the earliest File at the Record Office for the Co. of Brecon. In this instance I copy the complete list:—

Gilbert, Bishop of Bath and Wells.

Cuthbert, Bishop of Chester.

John Throckmorton, Esq., Justice of Chester.

Sir Adam Mytton.

Sir John Vaughan.

Sir Roger Vaughan.

John Scudamore, Esq.

Charles Fox, Esq.

David Lewis, Doctor of Laws

John Welshe, Esq.

Reginald Corbett, Esq.

William Symonds, Esq.

William Gerrard, Esq.

Richard Seborne, Esq.

Walter Herbert, Esq.

Thomas Havard, Esq.

John Games, Esq.

Thomas Salors (?) Esq.

Edward Games, Esq.

John Lloid, Esq.

Three or four of the above named are usually found at this period on other Welsh Lists. They may be described as official, in contradistinction to local magistrates.
 PEARMAIN.

CURRENT NOTES.

The new non-parochial burial ground in connection with the parish church, Llansantffraid-Glyn-Ceiriog, running from north to south of the sacred edifice, was consecrated on Wednesday by the Bishop of St. Asaph.

Captain Waters of Radbrook, Shrewsbury, died last week. The deceased gentleman, who was well advanced in years, was well known throughout the county. As a mining engineer of considerable ability he took a leading part in the development of the Minsterley mines, which were worked under his personal superintendence. He took great interest in all kinds of sports, and was one of the prime movers in the establishment of the Shrewsbury Racecourse Company. As one of the vice-presidents of the Shropshire Football Association, he rendered valuable aid towards securing for this game that prominent position it now holds throughout the county. He was also a vice-president of the Shrewsbury Pengwern Boat Club, and up to last year was a vice-president of the Granville Liberal Club. He took an active part in the election of 1885, in endeavouring to secure the return of the late Mr Charles Waring for the borough, and of Mr Henry Jephson for the Oswestry Division.

The Celebrated Birthplace of this month's *Antiquary* is Hayes Place, Kent, where the younger Pitt was born, and his father died, and we learn with regret that a horse-block from which the son, when a small boy, made speeches to an imaginary audience at his father's desire, has been lately destroyed by servants ignorant of its historical

interest. It was at Hayes Court that Wolfe, dining with Pitt and Temple the day before he sailed for America, "drew his sword, rapped the table with it, flourished it round the room, and talked of the mighty things which that sword was to achieve", so that, after his departure, Pitt said, "Good God, that I should have entrusted the fate of the country and the administration to such hands!" Mr P. H. Malet concludes his article on Bone Caves, in which he attempts to demolish existing theories, and to show that bones were deposited by running water in the places where they are now found, that in many cases the caves were subsequently formed, and that, contrary to Geikie's theory, the level of the sea has sunk. In "Notes from Chester" by E. W. Cox, attention is called to the fact that "one of the most picturesque bits in Chester," one at the Cross against which formerly stood the conduit, is doomed by the Corporation. The same writer enters a strong protest against the present method of "keeping up the walls." Instead of numbering and photographing the ancient stones and then resetting them exactly in their old places, "an entirely new wall in a wretched style is put up." If this is true, surely there are antiquaries in Chester who can get it altered?

Part II. of the 8th volume of *Y Cymmrodor* opens with over forty pages of observations on the Welsh Pronouns, by Dr. Max Nettlau, which will doubtless be of great interest to philologists. This is followed by the original, and a translation of *Ebostol y Sul*, a homily on the observance of Sunday, which "Peter the Bishop of Antioch" swears by the power of God, and by Jesus Christ, and by the Trinity, and by the Twelve Apostles, and by the Virgin, and by the bodies of the Saints, was composed by no man, but was found upon the altar of Peter the Apostle in the Church of Peter and Paul at Rome. The MS. dates from the early part of the 15th century, and is taken from the Cotton MSS. in the British Museum. The "Selections of Welsh Poetry" are continued, Mr T. W. Hancock contributes a list of Ancient Welsh Words, and Professor Powel, Notes on Salesbury's Dictionary, which, he shows, should not be regarded as a Welsh Dictionary, but as a vocabulary for the help of students of English. In the Miscellaneous section the following translation of Welsh inscriptions (also given) on the principal gateway of Llanover Castle are printed.

On the Outer Side.

THE WELCOME.

Who art thou, Comer?

If a Friend, the Welcome of the Heart to thee,

If a Stranger, Hospitality shall meet thee,

If an Enemy, Kindness shall imprison thee.

On the Inner Side.

THE VALEDICTION.

Departing Guest, Leave a blessing behind thee,

And mayst thou be Blessed;

Health and Prosperity be with thee on thy journey,

And a happy Return.

THE SOCIETY FOR UTILIZING THE WELSH LANGUAGE.—The result of the recent ballot of members of this Society for the election of twenty members on the Council for next year has been made public. Archdeacon Griffiths's name was included in the twenty thus honoured, but having been already re-appointed honorary treasurer, and thus occupying a seat *ex officio*, the scrutineers, following the precedent set in previous years, include in their return the names of the twenty who received the highest number of votes, excluding the name of Archdeacon Griffiths. The following are the names of those elected:—Mr D. Bowen, Abercarn, the Rev Aaron Davies, Gelligaer, the Rev Principal Gethin Davies, Llangollen, the Rev Principal T.

Charles Edwards, M.A., D.D., Aberystwyth, Mr Thos. E. Ellis, M.P., Mr Thomas Gee, Denbigh, the Ven. Archdeacon Griffiths, Mr R. Iwan Jenkyn, F.R.H.S., Bethesda, Mr D. W. Jones (Dafydd Morganwg), Major E. Rowland Jones, American Consul, Cardiff, Principal J. Viriamu Jones, M.A., Cardiff, Dr Isambard Owen, Professor T. Powel, Cardiff, Professor T. F. Roberts, Cardiff, the Rev. Professor D. Rowlands (Dewi Môn), Brecon, Mr Alfred Thomas, M.P., Mr E. Thomas (Coch-farf), Mr David Williams, Principal of the Training College, Swansea, His Honour Judge Gwilym Williams, Mr Thomas Williams, Gwaedod-y-Garth, Mr T. Marchant Williams, B.A.

WELSH-ENGLISH.—The third report of the Royal Commission on the Elementary Education Acts is not by any means so heavy and dry as the appearance of the ponderous blue book might suggest. There are even little touches of pathos and humour in it here and there. In the evidence of the very first witness examined we hear of schoolfuls of unhappy little Welshmen all over the Principality in past days being caned "for using their mother tongue, the tongue in which all their hearts' associations were bound up, the language of their homes, of their parents' religion, of their own sympathies and intelligence." This was, of course, to compel them to speak English, and was at one time universal in Wales. They were never permitted to speak their own tongue under any circumstances, either in the school or in the playground, and queer utterances sometimes resulted. "On one occasion," says the witness, "a boy in the second or third standard, a big lad of eleven years of age, came to school an hour late. He was accompanied by a sister and a schoolmate a year older. I called him up and asked him in English where he had been. The reply took my breath away, 'Please, sir,' said he, 'I am dead.' 'You are dead?' I asked in surprise. 'Yes,' he said, 'I am dead on the road.' On breaking through my own rule, and inquiring in Welsh what he meant, I found that the poor boy had been ill on the road, and that neither he nor his sister nor schoolmate could distinguish in English between having been ill and being dead."

SIR THEODORE MARTIN AND THE LLANGOLLEN PUBLIC LIBRARY.

On Thursday evening Sir Theodore Martin, K.C.B., presided over a concert given in the Assembly Rooms at Llangollen, in aid of the funds of the Public Library. There was a crowded attendance.

In opening the proceedings, the CHAIRMAN said:—Ladies and Gentlemen,—When last year about this time I stood here to advocate the establishment of a public library for Llangollen, sanguine as I was, I could not have anticipated that our efforts would be so successful as they have actually proved to be. It was a happy omen, that we had then sitting among us Robert Browning—(cheers)—one of England's greatest poets, and that he entered heartily into the project, so heartily, indeed, that immediately on his return to London, he sent to the Library not only his own works, but also those of his wife, a lady whose poems will always command a foremost place among those of "The serene creators of immortal things," and of whom all true and high hearted women, not of this country only, but of every land where English is spoken, will always be proud. (Cheers.) Nor was Mr Browning content with this. He appealed to his publisher, Mr George Smith, to follow his example. From such an appeal Mr Smith was not likely to turn away, for his generosity is well-known. So he sent, as a companion to Mr Browning's gift, fine and complete editions of the

works of Thackeray, of Thackeray's gifted daughter, and also all the novels of Mrs Gaskell and the Sisters Bronte. This was a splendid start for us, and the example was quickly followed by others, with the result that the foundation was laid of a library of sound literature, without the expenditure of a single shilling. (Cheers.) The funds raised by your concerts of last year, and by the subscriptions of generous friends, were sufficient to fill up any gaps that were likely to be more immediately felt, so that we now have a really well selected and well ordered library, adapted to every wholesome literary taste, of no fewer than 1,600 volumes. But now comes the question, what is the use that has been made of this excellent collection? And in this respect also the results appear to me to be highly satisfactory. I am enabled by Mr Darlington, the library's most zealous and able secretary, to put these results before you. The library has been open for thirty-six weeks, during which time 1,872 volumes have been issued. This makes an average of fifty-two per week, and as books are allowed to be kept for perusal for fourteen days, we may fairly assume that upon an average 104 volumes are in constant circulation. Into this account I have only taken local subscribers; but the value of the library has been appreciated by casual visitors also, who have taken out during the summer no fewer than 155 volumes. Then, when we look to what the books are which have been so taken out, the conclusion they justify is no less satisfactory. As might be expected, and as I for one certainly do not regret, the great run has been upon works of fiction. Who does not love to escape from the cares and commonplace of the workaday world into the regions of romance, especially when these regions are opened to them by such writers as Walter Scott, as Thackeray, as Dickens, as George Eliot, as the Brontes, as Mrs Gaskell, as Lord Lytton, Lord Beaconsfield, and others not unworthy to follow in their train? Tired men and women—and among our readers there must be many such—will find their fatigue charmed most readily away by interest in the incidents and the characters of these great masters of fiction—fiction which, let us never forget, would not have taken hold of men's minds as it has done, had it not been based on truth. So it is, that out of the 1,872 volumes taken out from the library, 894 have been works of fiction. What fiction, you will ask, has been most in favour. Here, again, the answer is satisfactory, and the details are interesting. The best has found the largest appreciation. Of Dickens's works, "Nicholas Nickleby," "Oliver Twist," "David Copperfield," and "Bleak House," have been most in favour. I suppose it is because so many already knew his "Pickwick" and "Martin Chuzzlewit" that they have been less asked for. Thackeray's "Newcomes" is more in request than any of his works—a noble and beautiful book, but I hope to hear in future years that "Vanity Fair" and "Pendennis," and, above all, "Esmond," will run it close. Walter Scott's "Kenilworth" and "Heart of Midlothian" are chiefly called for, but, for my own part, I shall not be satisfied until I hear that "Guy Ranning," "Rob Roy," "Old Mortality," "The Antiquary," "Quentin Durward," "Ivanhoe," "The Bride of Lammormoor," and "Redgauntlet," have as full a register of Llangollen readers as even "Kenilworth" and "The Heart of Midlothian." That there should be a great demand for all George Eliot's and Mrs Gaskell's works is most natural, for they come home to the hearts of every class of readers. One wonders, however, to find that Lord Beaconsfield's "Endymion" has been most in demand of all his works, while his "Coningsby," his "Sybil," and his brilliant "Lothair," have not attracted attention. They are worth it, and no doubt their day will come. That "Jane Eyre" and "The

Village on the Cliff" should bear away the bell from the other works of Charlotte Bronte and of Miss Thackeray shows a discriminating taste, but their other novels ought not to be overlooked. Next in attraction to works of fiction have been books of history, and voyages, and travels. Two hundred and thirty-four volumes of these have been read—a most encouraging fact—and when the library is well stocked with works of this class, in which it is at present rather weak, we may fairly hope, that this proportion will be largely augmented. Next in order come biography and correspondence, of which 154 volumes have been read. It is very satisfactory to find that chiefly in demand have been the lives of Charles Kingsley, and of Dickens, and that most fascinating of books, "Boswell's Life of Johnson." Her Majesty's two little volumes are also in high favour, and my own "Life of the Prince Consort"—(cheers)—a circumstance that gives me peculiar pleasure, not as gratifying any feeling of personal vanity, but because I would have all my countrymen know how much their Sovereign and her subjects owe to that very remarkable man. (Cheers.) I confess I learned with a pleased surprise that there had been readers of no fewer than 114 volumes of theology, philosophy, and religion. Some amongst us, it is clear, have recognized the truth of Milton's words—

How pleasant is divine philosophy !
Not harsh and crabbed as dull fools suppose,
But musical as is Apollo's lute,
And a perpetual feast of nectared sweets,
Where no crude surfeit reigns.

The readers of books on arts, science, and natural history have been more numerous still. This was to be expected; and it is pleasant to find that the books most read were Farrar's "Language and Languages," Darwin's "Origin of Species," Sir Charles Lyell's "Principles of Geology," Evers's "Steam and Steam Engines," and similar works, which demand close attention and continuous thought. Under the head "Miscellaneous," 153 volumes have been called for. Among these were chiefly Morley's admirable "Universal Library," Wendell Holmes's "Breakfast Table Series," and Dr. Smiles's "Works," the last, to my thinking, quite invaluable for the examples they present, of industry and ingenuity, and triumph over difficulty, and their lessons of self-help, self-denial, and manly worth, which were at no time more needed to be put before us than in the present day. (Cheers.) Ladies and gentlemen, I think you will agree with me that the record I have laid before you is full of encouragement, and one that must be gratifying to all who have aided in the good work, which we are met together to-night to forward. Good as our library is, there are several departments in which it requires to be strengthened. But it has reached a point at which further strength should be sought only in works of approved excellence; and I am sure the Committee by whom it is managed will keep this principle well in view. "Of making books there is no end," said Solomon. What would he have said had he lived in our day, when the flood of printed matter of all kinds has become simply overwhelming! Just because it is so overwhelming ought we to set ourselves to select for our use only what is choicely good; and the wider our experience, it seems to me, the more strongly shall we be convinced that we cannot do better than take refuge from the mass of crude and undisciplined opinion, and of commonplace, slovenly, and inartistic prose and verse with which the press daily teems, in the works of the great thinkers and writers of past days, and of those of our own time on whom the stamp of immortality has already by anticipation been set. (Cheers.) It has been well said of such libraries as this of ours that they are "the wardrobes of

literature, whence men, properly informed, may bring forth something for ornament, much for curiosity, and more for use." It is delightful to know that there are many among us—may their number grow daily greater!—who use our library for these purposes. Thanks to it, those who have long been readers have been animated by the fresh stores of knowledge and thought and beauty which it has brought within their reach. Better still, it has begotten the desire to read and to study in others, to whom the charms of reading and of study had been previously unknown. God grant it may continue to do so, and help in making better and happier men and women in this rural community of ours, opening their eyes more and more to the beauty, the marvel, and the mystery of the world as given to us by our Creator, and feeding and fortifying their souls with good and generous and elevating thoughts. (Cheers.) So much of my own happiness has been drawn from books, that I would fain have all to feel, as I feel, what Wordsworth has expressed most truly and eloquently in one of his sonnets—

Dreams, books, are each a world; and books, we know,
Are a substantial world, both pure and good,
Round which with tendrils strong as flesh and blood,
Our pastime and our happiness will grow.

—(Cheers.)

OCTOBER 19, 1887.

NOTES.

GALLOWES TREE BANK, WELSHPOOL.—If I remember correctly, the first canal bridge between the town of Pool and Buttington Turnpike gate is called Gallows Tree Bank Bridge. When I lived in the neighbourhood I made some enquiries about Gallows Tree Bank, but I did not meet with any one who knew exactly where the "Gallows Tree" stood, or whether there ever had been one. Some time ago I found a reference to both the Tree and the Bank, as follows:—"We present the road from Welsh Town as far as the *Late* Gallows Tree Bank, the inhabitants of Welsh Town are liable to the repairs." This presentment was made in the year 1718. It might be inferred that the unsightly structure had then been recently removed. As the county gaol was, if not then, at any rate at a little earlier period, in Pool, there is very little doubt the name was given to the spot because there stood the instrument which vindicated the law, and judging by the abnormally large number of prosecutions at the Great Sessions during the 16th and 17th centuries, it was not unfrequently requisitioned.

PEARMAIN.

HISTORY OF THE GWYDIR FAMILY.—On page 53 of Mr Askew Roberts's Edition of Sir John Wynne's History of his family is the following entry:—

"Rys ap Einion Vaughan having had warning, as aforesaid, that Henblas should be redeemed, hasted to build Brynsallty, before that Michaelmas appointed."

The words, "as aforesaid," imply that this information respecting the redemption of Henblas before Michaelmas, had been previously given in the History, but as a matter of fact the information appears for the first time on page 56, where we are told that—

"Having surveyed the land, they gave Rys ap Einion Vaughan then warning that he should avow the land at Michaelmas, for then he should have the twelve pounds mortgage-money payed him."

The worthy knight evidently here made a slip when he wrote the first entry, and forgot what he had previously written, or his papers were mixed and confused, and hence the blunder above mentioned.

The same order of records occurs in Barrington's Edition, 1770, and also in the Ruthin Edition, 1827. The mistake is only a slight one, but to the careful reader it may be confusing, for he might naturally think that an omission in the history occurs when in reality the omission is supplied *afterwards*, and not *aforesaid*, as stated in the first paragraph.

Perhaps I will some day or other refer to other matters contained in the various editions of the Gwydir Memorials. E.O.

COLERIDGE AT WEM.—Reference has been made in an old volume of *Bye-Gones* to Coleridge's visit to Wem, but I think Hazlitt's interesting account of it has never been given, nor has the question been asked whether the house—which was inhabited by Hazlitt's father, the Unitarian Minister—is still standing there. Cannot some reader of *Bye-Gones* tell us whether the "little wainscoted parlour" is yet to be seen? Hazlitt says:—

On the Tuesday following, the half-inspired speaker came. I was called down into the room where he was, and went half-hoping, half-afraid. He received me very graciously, and I listened for a long time without uttering a word. I did not suffer in his opinion by my silence. "For those two hours," he afterwards was pleased to say, "he was conversing with William Hazlitt's forehead!" His complexion was at that time clear, and even bright—

As are the children of yow azure sheen.

His forehead was broad and high, light as if built of ivory, with large projecting eyebrows, and his eyes rolling beneath them, like a sea with darkened lustre. "A certain tender bloom his face o'erspread," a purple tinge, as we see it in the pale thoughtful complexions of the Spanish portrait painters, Murillo and Velasquez. His mouth was gross, voluptuous, open, eloquent; his chin good-humoured and round; but his nose, the rudder of the face, the index of the will, was small, feeble, nothing—like what he has done. It might seem that the genius of his face as from a height surveyed, and projected him (with sufficient capacity and huge aspiration) into the world unknown of thought and imagination, with nothing to support or guide his veering purpose, as if Columbus had launched his adventurous course for the New World in a scallop, without oars or compass. So, at least, I comment on it after the event. Coleridge, in his person, was rather above the common size, inclining to the corpulent, or like Lord Hamlet "somewhat fat and puffy." His hair (now, alas! grey) was then black and glossy as the raven's, and fell in smooth masses over his forehead. This long pendulous hair is peculiar to enthusiasts, to those whose minds tend heavenward, and is traditionally inseparable (though of a different colour) from the pictures of Christ. It ought to belong, as a character, to all who preach *Christ crucified*, and Coleridge was at that time one of those! . . . No two individuals were ever more unlike than were the host and his guest. A poet was to my father a sort of nondescript; yet whatever added grace to the Unitarian cause was to him welcome. He could hardly have been more surprised or pleased, if our visitor had worn wings. Indeed, his thoughts had wings; and as the silken sounds rustled round our little wainscoted parlour, my father threw back his spectacles over his forehead, his white hairs mixing with its sanguine hue; and a smile of delight

beamed across his rugged, cordial face, to think that truth had found a new ally in fancy! Besides, Coleridge seemed to take considerable notice of me, and that of itself was enough. He talked very familiarly, but agreeably, and glanced over a variety of subjects.

At dinner time he grew more animated, and dilated in a very edifying manner on Mary Wolstonecraft and Mackintosh. The last, he said, he considered (on my father's speaking of his "*Vindicæ Gallicæ*" as a capital performance) as a clever, scholastic man—a master of the topics—or, as the ready warehouseman of letters, who knew exactly where to lay his hand on what he wanted, though the goods were not his own. He thought him no match for Burke, either in style or matter. Burke was a metaphysician, Mackintosh a mere logician. Burke was an orator (almost a poet) who reasoned in figures, because he had an eye for nature: Mackintosh, on the other hand, was a rhetorician, who had only an eye to common-places. On this I ventured to say that I had always entertained a great opinion of Burke, and that (as far as I could find) the speaking of him with contempt might be made the test of a vulgar, democratical mind. This was the first observation I ever made to Coleridge, and he said it was a very just and striking one. I remember the leg of Welsh mutton and the turnips on the table that day had the finest flavour imaginable. Coleridge added that Mackintosh and Tom Wedgwood (of whom, however, he spoke highly) had expressed a very indifferent opinion of his friend Mr Wordsworth, on which he remarked to them—"He strides on so far before you, that he dwindles in the distance!" Godwin had once boasted to him of having carried on an argument with Mackintosh for three hours with dubious success; Coleridge told him, "If there had been a man of genius in the room, he would have settled the question in five minutes." He asked me if I had ever seen Mary Wolstonecraft, and I said, I had once for a few moments, and that she seemed to me to turn off Godwin's objections to something she advanced with quite a playful, easy air. He replied, that "this was only one instance of the ascendancy which people of imagination exercised over those of mere intellect." . . . I forget a great number of things, many more than I remember; but the day passed off pleasantly, and the next morning Mr Coleridge was to return to Shrewsbury. When I came down to breakfast, I found that he had just received a letter from his friend, T. Wedgwood, making him an offer of £150 a year if he chose to waive his present pursuit, and devote himself entirely to the study of poetry and philosophy. Coleridge seemed to make up his mind to close with this proposal in the act of tying on one of his shoes. It threw an additional damp on his departure. It took the wayward enthusiast quite from us to cast him into Deva's winding vales, or by the shores of old romance. Instead of living at ten miles' distance, of being the pastor of a Dissenting congregation at Shrewsbury, he was henceforth to inhabit the hill of Parnassus, to be a shepherd on the Delectable Mountains! Alas! I knew not the way thither, and felt very little gratitude for Mr Wedgwood's bounty. I was presently relieved from this dilemma; for Mr Coleridge, asking for a pen and ink, and going to a table to write something on a bit of card, advanced towards me with undulating step, and giving me the precious document, said that that was his address, "Mr Coleridge, Nether-Stowey, Somersetshire;" and that he should be glad to see me there in a few weeks' time, and, if I chose, would come half-way to meet me. I was not less surprised than the shepherd-boy (this simile is to be found in "*Cassandra*"), when he sees a thunder-bolt fall close at his feet. I stammered out my acknowledgments and acceptance of this offer (I thought Mr

Wedgwood's annuity a trifle to it) as well as I could; and this mighty business being settled, the poet preacher took leave, and I accompanied him six miles on the road. It was a fine morning in the middle of winter, and he talked the whole way. The scholar in Chaucer is described as going

"Sounding on his way."

So Coleridge went on his. In digressing, in dilating, in passing from subject to subject, he appeared to me to float in air, to slide on ice. He told me in confidence (going along) that he should have preached two sermons before he accepted the situation at Shrewsbury, one on Infant Baptism, the other on the Lord's Supper, showing that he could not administer either, which would have effectually disqualified him for the object in view. I observed that he continually crossed me on the way by shifting from one side of the footpath to the other. This struck me as an odd movement; but I did not at that time connect it with any instability of purpose or involuntary change of principle, as I have done since. He seemed unable to keep on in a straight line. . . . Would that I could go back to what I then was! Why can we not revive past times as we can revisit old places? If I had the quaint muse of Sir Philip Sidney to assist me, I would write a "Sonnet to the Road between Wem and Shrewsbury," and immortalise every step of it by some fond enigmatical conceit. I would swear that the very milestones had ears, and that Harmer Hill stooped with all its pines, to listen to a poet, as he passed! I remember but one other topic of discourse in this walk. He mentioned Paley, praised the naturalness and clearness of his style, but condemned his sentiments, thought him a mere time-serving casuist, and said that "the fact of his work on 'Moral and Political Philosophy' being made a text-book in our Universities was a disgrace to the national character." We parted at the six-mile stone; and I returned homeward pensive, but much pleased. I had met with unexpected notice from a person whom I believed to have been prejudiced against me. "Kind and affable to me had been his condescension, and should be honoured ever with suitable regard." He was the first poet I had known, and he certainly answered to that inspired name. I had heard a great deal of his powers of conversation, and was not disappointed. In fact, I never met with anything at all like them, either before or since.

W.O.

QUERIES.

SERGEANTS AT MACE.—What are the duties of these Municipal Officials, how are they appointed, for how long, and what fund do their emoluments arise from? Is the office an ancient one? QUERIST.

WELSH MAGISTRATES (Sept. 21, Oct. 5, 12, 1887). If only eight magistrates were allowed for each Welsh county by Henry VIII, how comes it to pass that nineteen were appointed for Montgomeryshire and twenty for Breconshire, according to the lists given by PEARMAIN? W.O.

OWEN GWYNEDD'S ARMS.—EAGLETS.—It is well-known that Owen Gwynedd (d. 1169) bore "Vert, 3 ea: displ: in fess or," and that the borough of Carnarvon for some three centuries or more has borne the same arms, although in 8th Henry VI (1430) the arms were "3 lions passant gardant, with an ea: displ: as the crest" (see frontispiece, and note 22, p. 126, in Breese's "Kalendars of Gwynedd.") Can any readers

of this column throw any light as to whence the eaglets were first derived as the Arms of Gwynedd?

SEGONTIUM.

REPLIES.

HARVEST CUSTOMS IN SHROPSHIRE AND WALES (Sept. 28, Oct. 12, 1887).—I remember the finishing of the harvest at Mr Minnett's of Maesbury House, when each man took his bottle of beer into the field, and, shouting hurrah, they divided into two lines, facing one another. The question and answer then followed:—"Whad 'ast thee?" "A Mare," "What's thee going to do with her?" "Send her to Mr ——" of ——" THOMAS LEWIS.

Morton.

The "Reply" of your correspondent "R.J." of October 12th has recalled to my memory some pleasing incidents of "bygone days." Well do I remember the "gusto" with which I—as a boy—partook of the harvest "fitchet pie." It was composed of apples and onions, incorporated together, with lumps of fat bacon, and sweetened with treacle, with a crust a quarter of an inch—or more—thick. Since I have attained "riper years," I have had some specially prepared for me, but I did not relish it at all.

A harvestman says he has lost his "day's wages" when he allows his fork to be taken up *with the stuff* on to the loads or stack up to which he is pitching, and he has "lost the goose,"—to the whole of his compeers—when he upsets a load.

A case is recorded of a farmer near to this place having borrowed a goose for the "harvest supper" from a neighbour *without his consent* being first "had and obtained," as the lawyers say, and the said neighbour was kindly invited to partake of his own bird, and, being ignorant of the source whence it was obtained, enjoyed it exceedingly.

One of the harvest dances was the "three sheep skins," to a tune specially composed for it, the performer making most grotesque gyrations over two crossed pipes without breaking the stems. In another he had a thin piece of paper pinned to the seat of his breeches, which various members of the company attempted to set on fire with a candle, but which the dancer tried to prevent by the activity of his motions.

I quite agree with "R.J." that with malt and hops at lower prices than I ever remember them, it is a "nation shame," (a common expression amongst farm labourers) that the future "lords of the land," should adulterate the good old "Shropshire medicine," called by the Welsh harvest-men "cwrw da," so that a man who can drink a quart of the "genuine article," without being any the worse, nay, much the better, for it, should purchase a head-ache with every two-pennyworth of "brewer's bane" that he indulges in.

Wheat is now generally cut by machine, but there is often "racing" amongst the barley mowers, and woe betide the "Measter" who attempts to "lead" his men; it is ten to one he will have to drop his scythe and "cut his stick," to save his legs from the operation; his men will then "have a bit of peace," as they say, that is, a pipe and a chat.

In the neighbourhood in which I was reared, formerly

lived a swaggering fellow named John G—; on one occasion, when John was "tailing" the team, he got so far behind that the rest had nearly overtaken him the second time through, and when his wife came into the field he was about twenty yards in advance of the rest; she immediately bawled out, "Gently John G—, or yo'n kill all the men." This became a by-word, and if ever a leader struck out from the rest, they would call out, "Gently, John, &c.," or "have you met with a wasp's nest." A dry old stick known as "Rowley the Miller" was once asked to give a day at the mowing, and finding he could not keep up with the rest, he suddenly dropped his scythe and bawled out, "Coming. There's no peace for poor old Rowley, somebody has come with a batch now;" and away he went to his mill. J.J.

CURRENT NOTES.

Six degrees of frost were registered at Wynnstay on Saturday morning.

The patronage of the livings of Baschurch, Fitz, Loppington, Rodington, Ruyton-xi-Towns, and Wrockwardine Wood has been transferred from the Crown to the Bishop of Lichfield.

The death is announced of Charlotte Pigot, at Whittington Rectory, Kirkby Lonsdale, at the advanced age of 102 years and three months. She was the daughter of the late Thomas Pigot, Peplow Hall, Shropshire, and aunt to the present vicar of Norwich.

The Record Society for the publication of original documents relating to Lancashire and Cheshire held its annual meeting at Liverpool recently. One of the volumes just issued, and edited by Mr Chancellor Christie (the president of the Society), is a Latin chronicle beginning with the birth of our Lord, and coming down to the year 1297. The original manuscript, which belongs to Lord Mostyn, was shown at the meeting.

Mr John Price, M.A., a well-known local naturalist, died at his residence, Watergate-street, Chester, aged 84, on Friday. Mr Price was born at Pwllcrochon, on the North Wales coast, and was educated at Shrewsbury School (Charles Darwin being one of his schoolfellows), and St. John's College, Cambridge. He was engaged all his life in the work of teaching, having been a master at Shrewsbury, Bristol, and Liverpool. He opened a school for ragged children in Chester, and taught them there himself for many years. He was one of the most active assistants of Canon Kingsley in forming and carrying on the Natural Science Society at Chester, and was an ardent student of botany and zoology.

A correspondent of a contemporary writes under date October 12:—On Saturday last as I was passing through Gobowen, on the way to Preesgweene, I observed on the hedge a bird well known in these parts as the black and white snowbird, or the white blackbird. This bird, which was a fine specimen, resembles a magpie in colour, but is only about the size of a blackbird. This is rather early in the year for a bird of this species to be seen in this part of the country, and it is presumed that it foretells a prolonged winter. This is evidenced by the snowstorm which visited us a day or two ago, and the very cold weather which prevails. At Rhuddlan Marsh, last week, numerous flocks of wild ducks and other northern birds were seen flying about.

An earthquake shock, which lasted several seconds, was felt throughout the Rhondda Valley, South Wales, about ten minutes past six on Wednesday morning. The earth tremour was accompanied by a rumbling noise, which caused considerable alarm amongst the men at work in the coal pits. At Cwmauon and Aberavon the shocks were severely felt, and numerous families ran out of their houses fearing the buildings would fall. Many articles of furniture in various houses were shaken violently, and some thrown down. A double concussion was felt at Ystrad, accompanied by rumbling of the earth causing the houses to shake. Many who had not risen felt the beds rock under them. The shock was also felt at Merthyr, Porthcawl, Abermorlais, Ewenny, and other places, where the vibrations caused much alarm. People were shaken in their beds, and china, furniture, &c., were disturbed, and in many instances were shattered.

DEATH OF MR ISAAC HUGHES, OSWESTRY.—Our obituary to-day contains the name of Mr Isaac Hughes, who died on Sunday at the age of 72. Mr Hughes competed many years ago for a national prize, for a poem on Sunday, and won second place. He afterwards published a volume of verses entitled "Home and other poems."

THE WYNNSTAY ESTATES.—We regret to state that Mr Owen Slaney Wynne, who has for so many years had the management of the Wynnstay estates, which cover 147,000 acres, is about to retire, owing to failing health. Mr Wynne has for many years occupied this important post, which he was asked to accept by the late baronet, who placed the greatest confidence in him, a feeling which was shared by those who did business with Mr Wynne.

AN OLD MARRIAGE CUSTOM AT KNUTSFORD.—Miss Beatrice Tollemache writes as follows to the *Academy*:—"The town of Knutsford, lately visited by the Prince of Wales on his way to Manchester, still keeps up an old custom from the days of King Knut—that of making patterns in white sand on the cobbles of the street. The origin of this custom, which was observed on the occasion of the visit of the Prince, but is usually reserved for weddings, is that when Knut crossed the brook he sat down on the further shore to shake out the sand from his shoes, and while he was doing this a wedding party passed by. He then wished them joy, and strewed the sand before them, saying, 'May you have as many children as there are grains of sand.' I have often seen half-moons and other devices before a house in Knutsford, showing that a wedding had taken place."

A FREE LIBRARY FOR WELSHPOOL.—The committee of the Powysland Club having offered to hand over their valuable museum and library to the town, on Friday a poll took place at Welshpool on the adoption of the Free Libraries Act. For some time the movement had been strongly opposed by a large section of the farmers and a few of the tradesmen in the town, on the ground of the rate being on the land as well as the houses and buildings; but the generous offer of Lord Powis, Mrs Lovell, Mr A. C. Humphreys-Owen, and Mr Fairles-Humphreys to pay the rate on the lands of their respective tenants turned the tide of opposition to a great extent. The polling took place in the Council Chamber. The Mayor (T. R. Morris, Esq.) was Returning Officer, Mr Frank Roper, Presiding Officer, and Mr A. E. Breeze, Deputy Presiding Officer. The poll opened at 10 a.m., and closed at 7 p.m. The town was perfectly quiet throughout the day; the burgesses in favour of the adoption of the Act began in the morning, with a good lead of about three to one, and about the same proportion was maintained throughout the day.

His worship, the Mayor, read out the result as follows—For the adoption of the Act, 409; against, 118; majority, 291. The announcement of the numbers was received with loud cheers by the crowd outside.

CHARLES DICKENS'S GRANDMOTHER.—Mr T. Wemyss Reid writes to the *Daily News*:—Sir,—In your issue of Tuesday last you refer to a statement in an Indian paper regarding the grandmother of Charles Dickens. As there are some inaccuracies in the story quoted by you—especially in so far as it refers to the first Lady Houghton—you may possibly allow me to send you the correct version as I heard it many years ago from Lady Houghton herself. Old Mrs Dickens was not nurse but housekeeper at Crewe in the time of the first Lord Crewe, the grandfather of the present holder of the title, and of his sister the first Lady Houghton. I well remember Lady Houghton speaking to me with enthusiasm of Mrs Dickens's wonderful powers as a story-teller. It was her delight as a child to listen to the tales which the old lady was able to relate with so much dramatic force and feeling; and it was with the greatest interest that, later on in life, Lady Houghton recognized in the illustrious author of "David Copperfield," the grandson of the favourite of her childhood. Old Mrs Dickens had one grievance which Lady Houghton still recalled when she told me about her. It was the conduct of her son John—Charles's father—against whose illiness and general incapacity she was never tired of inveighing. There have been many conjectures as to the source from which Dickens derived his wonderful gift as a story-teller; but I believe that, until the publication of the article to which you refer, nothing has ever been printed regarding his grandmother. It is hardly a far-fetched fancy to suppose that he inherited his special gift from the old housekeeper at Crewe.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES.

The half-yearly meeting of the Court of Governors of the College was held on Wednesday, at the chemical lecture theatre of the College. The Earl of Powis presided, and there was a numerous attendance. The Secretary reported that the committee appointed to deal with the question of training colleges had placed themselves in communication with such institutions, and had met twice. It was thought advisable not to draw up a report until the Royal Commission had issued their report. The Committee on Intermediate Education had no final report prepared. Amongst their recommendations would be the establishment of an Academic Board for Wales. Principal Reichel presented a report of the work during the last session. The report, which was of a very favourable character, was adopted, upon the motion of the president, seconded by Mr J. Roberts, M.P.

The Council presented the report of the work done during the year. During the year the Council has lost two of its members by death, viz., Mr Arthur Wyatt and the Rev. Dr. L. Edwards. The death of Mr Wyatt had deprived the Council of a faithful and useful member, whilst the Rev. Dr. Edwards was taken away at a time when his lifelong services to the cause of higher education in Wales were beginning to bear abundant fruit. The statement of accounts which had been circulated among the Governors showed that the financial position of the College is still unsatisfactory. In the early part of the year the Finance Committee was directed to consider the subject, and, as the result of their deliberations, it was decided that the expenditure on account of scholarships be reduced, and that the registration fee of £1 1s be an addition to, instead of being included in, the composition fee payable by the students. The Council viewed with considerable apprehension the effect of the reduction in the amount offered

for scholarships, and also the addition to the fees, especially as these charges were to come into operation at a time when the College was in a critical period, inasmuch as the first batch of students who entered its walls were now completing their three years' term. The entry for the fourth session was, however, a very satisfactory one, and the ensuing year will, therefore, witness a considerable improvement in the financial position of the College. Another step taken by the Council, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, was the formation of a special fund for scholarships to be called the Jubilee Scholarship Fund, and to cover a period of five years. The sum already promised towards this fund was £1,231 13s, which falls short of the expectations of the Council; and it is to be hoped that many Governors who have not hitherto contributed towards the College will now come forward with their much needed support to this fund. It is of great importance also that the co-operation of Governors should be obtained in the collection of outstanding subscriptions in their several districts. The sum of £1,195 was received on this account during the past year, bringing up the total subscriptions received to £28,642. The special fund of £100 a year for five years for the maintenance of the library has at last been secured, and the Council have pleasure in announcing that the library is now placed on a footing which enables its advantages to be offered not only to the staff and students of the College, but also, under certain conditions, to Governors and others who may require to use it for purposes of study and research. From a supplementary report it appeared that, upon the motion of the Rev. E. Herber Evans, a Committee, consisting of Principal Reichel and six others, had been appointed to consider whether it was practicable to include Welsh in the curriculum of the College.—Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville West, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the financial position of the College had so far improved that it was hoped at the close of next year the deficit would be reduced to £71 17s. (Applause.) At the same time the Council had set their minds upon many improvements which were needed, notably additions to establish an independent fund for scholarships, instead of taking the amount out of revenue.—The report was adopted.—Upon the motion of the Rev Daniel Rowlands, seconded by Dr Herber Evans, a vote of condolence was passed with the families of the late Rev Dr Edwards, Bala, and Mr Arthur Wyatt.—Mr W. J. Parry, Bethesda, was unanimously re-elected auditor, and accorded a vote of thanks for his services, which it was stated were given gratuitously.—A vote of thanks to Lord Powis brought the proceedings to a close.

OCTOBER 26, 1887.

NOTES.

SHREWSBURY MINT.—"The mint at Shrewsbury, in the reign of Charles the First, is expressly mentioned by Lord Clarendon, and by Bryan Twyne (see Hearne's *Annals of Dunstaple*, p. 763); yet I do not remember ever to have seen any pieces coined here." Pegge's "Anonymiana," 1809, p. 127. G.H.B. Cardiff.

BORDER SAYINGS.—In East Radnor and Hereford, and the district stretching away from Clun to Minsterley, thorn is pronounced "thurn," wheat, "whit," waggon is called "wain" or "waayn"; it is said to be a sign of rain when the cry of the landrail is heard. You often hear it expressed thus—"ther will be some

more raayne the 'yachan' (corn crake) is 'shaawtin annanaible' (shouting undeniably.)" At New Marton, Perth, and around Ellesmere, cow is pronounced "caaw," plough, "plaw," once, "woonce," night, "neet," spirits, "sperrits," &c., &c. Farther north, in Flintshire and Cheshire, "way" is "wee," and drain, "dreen," &c., and in a public house you often hear this—"Missus, bring us a glass of eel (ale) and I'll pee (pay) for it." J.J.

Bronygadfa.

SHROPSHIRE PETITION TO OLIVER CROMWELL.—The following I take from Pegge's "Anonymiana" (1809), p. 360:—

Two gentlemen of *Gilbert's* county, viz., Shropshire, came to advise with him about August 26, 1658, concerning a petition "from this, to lift over against those from other counties, for an advance to *Kingshim*." Whereupon Mr Peck (Desid. Cur. p. 509) notes; "What Mr Gilbert here means, I am at a loss to conceive;" but see Rapin, p. 599. The petition was to have been to Oliver, for they would not think of applying to Charles, the Prince, by Scobell. At this time, about August 24 (see p. 508), the powers above were deliberating whether Cromwell should accept the title of *King*; and these two gentlemen apprehended, I imagine, or had heard, that some counties had petitioned him to accept, which they were against. So for *Kingshim* I read *Kingship*.

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

QUERIES.

FORMATION OF THE FOUR NEW WELSH COUNTIES, TEMP. HEN. VIII.—Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* direct the writer to any work which shows the boundaries of Cheshire, Salop, and Hereford, anterior to the constitution of the four counties of Denbigh, Montgomery, Radnor, and Brecon. The object in view is to ascertain if any portions of the English counties above were severed therefrom and attached to any of the New Welsh Shires. OMEGA.

WELSH NAMES OF ENGLISH PLACES.—A writer in "Notes and Queries" mentions Oswestry, Welshpool, Shrewsbury, Chirk, and other towns, as examples of places which the Welsh, in ordinary conversation, call by Welsh names. A short list of such places appeared in *Bye-Gones* some years ago, but a longer list would be interesting. Would any one supply it? W.O.

REPLIES.

MONTGOMERY.—GOD'S WELL (Oct. 12, 1887). I have been unable to find out anything about this matter. The oldest inhabitants do not remember any well called by that name. I will make further inquiries, but I am afraid I shall not be successful, as the people I have asked are about eighty years of age.

Montgomery.

J.W.M.

THE YOUNG ROSCIUS (Aug. 3, 1887).—The extract from *The English Chronicle* is inaccurate. Mr. Betty did not buy "a valuable estate near Shrewsbury," but he took Pym's Farm, Wem, on lease for ten years. He died there, and was buried at Loppington. His widow and son afterwards left the neighbourhood, but

the "Young Roscius" returned to Wem in 1820, and hired a house in Chapel-street, which he named "Tally-ho Cottage," R.E.D.
Shrewsbury.

MILL IN MONTGOMERY DISTRICT (July 20, 1887).—The "Old Mill," so called, is situate midway between the Caerhowel Inn and the river Severn (a footpath leading from the Caerhowel Bridge to the Railway Station passes the spot), and consists or rather consisted of two dwellings, both of which have been unoccupied for the last eight or ten years, and are rapidly crumbling to ruins. Traces of the watercourse thereto are plainly discernible, diverted from the Severn just below the bridge. This diversion is commemorated in the name of a small farm on the opposite bank of the river in Berriew parish, viz., *Argue* Hall, the embankment or dam. *Stanlaw* certainly bears a strong resemblance to *Stalloe* [what is the etymology of this word], but this farm is at least a mile and a half distant. I am uncertain as to the whereabouts of *Siglen*. This is, in itself, pure Welsh; and I rather suspect the latter part of the word quoted (*Stanlawescinlin*) to be in some way connected with *Llyn*, the pool in the river. T.H.J.

HARVEST CUSTOMS IN SHROPSHIRE AND WALES (Sep. 28, Oct. 12, 19, 1887).—The customs which were prevalent in the district of Llanymynech are accurately described in Miss Burne's "Shropshire Folk-Lore." The reaping was brought to a close by the custom of "cutting the gonder's neck." A group of a few ears of corn was left standing and knotted together in the middle of the field when all the rest was "down." The men stood a few paces distant, and threw their sickles at it in turn. The one who succeeded in cutting it was considered "best mon." The men then all ran to the house. Owing to the stiff limbs of the labouring swains, and sometimes a little evident inebriation, the contest caused the heartiest amusement. The worthies then had a "jug a' drink," and enjoyed it with unusual gusto and satisfaction. A former "missis" of the largest farm here always had a solution of herbs ready for the reapers to wash their hands in, to cure the scratches, &c., sustained during reaping. "Harvest Home" was celebrated by hearty shouting, and the custom of crying the "owd mar," and a "sniggering" offer of her to a laggard neighbour to help his "chem" to finish harvest. E.B.

In east Radnorshire and the adjoining county of Hereford, I am informed by a neighbour who "hails" from "them parts," there is practised what is not exactly a "harvest custom," but is supposed to have great influence on the yield of that year's "gathering." At from three to four o'clock on New Year's morning the family of the farmer, with the exception of the "Gaffer" and "Gammer," but including all the servants, start off to the autumn-sown wheat, carrying with them a large wooden bottle of cider, two or three trusses of bolting straw, and a shapely hawthorn branch, with straight off-shoots. On arriving at the field the straw is set on fire, and the thorn branch is held in the flames until it becomes supple, when it is plaited and twisted into an ornamental shape, to be hung over the farmhouse kitchen

for "good luck" till next year," like the "mistletoe bough." Whilst the straw is burning, boys run with a blazing wisp in their hands and strike it on each "butt" or "land," so that all may be blessed. The custom is called "burning the bush," and sometimes in a valley as many as ten or twelve fires may be seen at the same time. When the cider they have taken with them is drunk, and the ceremony is "all over but shouting," the different gangs join together and go round the farm houses to beg more and keep up the "wakes" for the remainder of the day. I suppose most of your readers—who are readers—know of the chant which is sung under the apple-trees at the same season, and for the same reason.

J. J.

CURRENT NOTES.

The *Historical Review* publishes a notice written by Mr A. W. Ward, of the last volume of the *Montgomeryshire Collections*.

The death of the Rev. Dr. W. Roberts of Utica, U.S., once a popular Calvinistic Methodist minister in Wales, is announced.

The Rev Edward Thring, head master for 34 years of Uppingham School (which for some time was located at Borth), died on Saturday.

Curio, an illustrated monthly magazine devoted to Genealogy, Biography, Heraldry, Book Plates, &c., is the title of a new antiquarian magazine just issued in New York. Mr Elliot Stock is the London publisher.

The Queen has been pleased to grant to Mr James Kynnersley Gardner, of Leighton Hall, Salop, in the Commission of the Peace for the County, her royal licence and authority to take and use the name of Kynnersley in lieu of that of Gardner, and to bear the arms of Kynnersley.

At Radnorshire Quarter Sessions on Thursday, Lord Ormthwaite, lord-lieutenant of the county, was unanimously elected chairman. A resolution was passed showing the appreciation by the Court of the services of the late Sir R. Green-Price, the former chairman, and sympathising with Lady Green-Price in her bereavement.

Mr John Bradshaw, naval pensioner, of Devonport, has presented Sir John Puleston with a remarkable "Jubilee present," the flag "taken by me at the capture of Amoy during the China war, now forty-six years ago, whilst I was serving on board her Majesty's ship Wellesley, and it has been carried in processions at elections for members of the borough of Devonport on several occasions." The writer expresses his regret that through bodily infirmities he is unable to present it himself. Sir John Puleston, in acknowledging the gift, writes:—"I cannot sufficiently thank you for the valuable presentation you have made to me. It is most interesting to possess such a flag as you have sent me, and I shall greatly prize it. It will always remind me of your gallantry and of the way our sailors uphold on all occasions the honour of our country. The fact that you have chosen the present time to present to me this relic which you have so long kept and valued, enhances the gift to me."

In re banking, a characteristic story of the late Mr Brassey has been told. Early in life he was in the employ of a Chester banker, Mr Wardell, and he sought to improve his position by entering from time to time in certain small contracts. At length he was offered a very large railway contract far beyond his means. In his extremity he waited on his old

master, laid the facts of the case before him, and asked him for a large advance. "But," he concluded, "I have no security to offer you." "Yes, you have—the best—a good character. You shall have the money." Years afterwards, when Mr Brassey had tapped several railway gold mines, a rumour became current that Wardell's bank was in difficulties. Mr Brassey heard of it, and hurried to Chester. "I have just heard the bad news. What sum do you require?" "Several hundreds of thousands," was the hopeless reply. "You shall have it." "But I have no security at all!" "Yes, you have—the best—a good character."

A correspondent of the *Cambrian News*, "One of the Survivors," gives an account of the formation of the Dolgelley Cricket and Reading Club (1846):—"I have before me one of the first rules printed in 1846. At that time members of both Universities (Oxford and Cambridge) used to visit Dolgelley every summer, and with them cricket was one of their favourite games, and some of them being acquainted with the leading families in the country, members and friends of theirs were prevailed upon to establish a cricket club, and the subject was taken in hand with great spirit and enthusiasm. Meetings were held for the purpose, and eventually the club was formed with the following gentlemen elected as principal officers—President, Mr H. J. Reveley; vice-president, Mr G. J. Williams; treasurer, Mr Lewis Williams, banker; hon. secretary, Mr William Payne, all of whom, with the exception of Mr L. Williams (who died about seven years ago at the advanced age of eighty-three) are still living. Of the others who formed the committee Mr W. Griffith is the only survivor. In all the number of members were sixty-two, a great number of whom were of course far advanced in years. On looking over the names I find that of the survivors there are only fifteen now living, and only seven residing at Dolgelley and the neighbourhood. The list is alphabetically arranged, and among the names I find that of Sir R. W. Vaughan, Bart., Hengwrt, and Sir William Wynn, Maesnyeuadd. At the commencement a small room was engaged as a Reading Room in Eidon-square (where now stands Crossby-buildings) until the Old Town Hall was converted into a commodious room, and occasionally served as a ball room. It has since been altered and made into offices for Mr W. R. Davies, solicitor. On the Reading Room being completed, the late veteran and commander of Sandown Fort, Isle of Wight, Sir William Wynn, made a present of a handsome library and a bookcase, with carvings in an antique style, made by the late Mr W. Jones (Maescaled), surmounted with the Royal Arms, and the motto "Dieu et mon droit," adorned with oak leaves and acorns, with, of course, a cannon at either side, which is still at the present Reading Room in the Market Hall.

INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS FOR ST. DAVID'S.—The Rev C. H. Davies, M.A., curate of Whittington, has been appointed Inspector of Schools for the Diocese of St. David's, at the salary of £300 a year.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES.—The following is the result of the election of five members of the Council by the Court of Governors on the second voting:—Mrs Verney, 28; Rev O. Davies, 6; Mrs Darbishire, 5; Dr Jones-Morris, 4; Dr Eytton Jones, 3; Mr Orme, 2.

INDEPENDENT COLLEGE, BANGOR.—The Rev. G. D. Hughes, Cheadle Hulme, has presented this College, of which the Rev. Thomas Lewis is principal, with a large portion of the extensive library of his father, the late Rev. D. Hughes, B.A., of Tredegar, the author of the Welsh standard work "The Bible Dictionary."

THE LATE REV. R. BRYAN COOKE.—The death of the oldest clergyman in North Wales, the Rev. Robert Bryan Cooke, of Bryn Alyn, Flintshire, is announced. He was in his 88th year.

THE LATE IOAN MAI.—Mr John Williams of Bridge-street, Carnarvon, one of the best known booksellers in North Wales, died on Friday, Oct. 14, in his 65th year. His bardic name was "Ioan Mai," and he wrote poetical compositions both in Welsh and English. Her Majesty the Queen has on more than one occasion accepted copies of his English compositions. Mr Williams was a local preacher among the Welsh Wesleyans. The funeral took place on Wednesday, and was attended by a large number of persons, both Churchmen and Nonconformists. A number of floral tributes were laid on the coffin.

THE LATE MR D. F. ATCHERLEY.—The will (dated 7th April, 1880), with one codicil, has been proved of Mr David Francis Atcherley, D.L., late of Marton Hall, Shrewsbury, Whatcroft Hall, Middlewich, Cymman, Flint, and The Tryth, Denbigh, who died on the 3rd May last, in South-street, Park-lane, and the value of whose personal estate has been declared under £50,000 by his wife, Mrs Caroline Frances Amherst Atcherley, the administratrix, to whom the testator bequeaths £1,000, the use and enjoyment for her life of all his plate, pictures, works of art, furniture, and household effects, horses and carriages, and, under power of appointment on the settlement of the family estates, charges thereon an annuity of £434 for her for her life, and bequeaths to his daughter Rosamond Minnie Margaret Atcherley a legacy of £7,000 on her attainment of the age of twenty-one years. He appoints as trustees the Right Hon. Cecil Raikes, the Right Hon. James Fraser Goodeve, Earl of Mar, and Capt. Edward Barrington Purves Kelso, and devises to them all his real estate, and bequeaths to them the residue of his personal estate to pay the income thereof to his said wife for her life, and on her decease for his said daughter absolutely.

MONMOUTHSHIRE NOT IN WALES.—On Wednesday, at Monmouthshire Quarter Sessions, Mr Bosanquet, deputy chairman, moved—"That this Court desires emphatically to record its opinion that, in the event of any special legislation being proposed for the Principality of Wales, Monmouthshire, being an English county, ought not to be included in such legislation." He denied that this was a mere academic question, because legislation for Wales had already been proposed, and one special measure passed. Not only so, but in the Bills introduced last session Monmouthshire was included in Wales, whereas Monmouthshire was not a part of the Principality. It was time to take action, for if the Welsh Church were disestablished, which God forbid, there was no reason why Monmouthshire should be dragged down with it. Next would come Welsh Home Rule. Mr Griffin seconded the resolution, on the ground that they ought to protest against everything that detached them from England and attached them to Wales. Lord Tredegar said he was very proud of being more or less a Welshman. Monmouthshire, however, was not a part of Wales, and ought not to be so treated. Lord Raglan followed on the same lines, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

BURNING THE DEAD HORSE.—The following is taken from an interesting letter received from the Rev. Nathaniel Jones (son of Mr John Jones of Brynagdfa), who recently went out to Australia for his health:—"Before starting on their voyage, the sailors have one month's pay made over

in advance to their friends, and so during the first month at sea, they are not actually earning wages, but working off the old debt. When the month is expired the sailors go through a ceremony which they call "Burning the Dead Horse." An imitation donkey is made out of straw and rags. One of the sailors gets his head and shoulders inside the animal's body, and lets his legs act as the donkey's legs. One of the boys gets astride him, another is at his head, and away they go. The animal is very gay, and bucks and rears and does all it can to unhorse its rider. After having gone around the main deck two or three times, the animal is put up by auction, and various bids are made for it from a shilling upwards. On the present occasion the animal was knocked down for 18s, and the sailors expect to make up the amount by passengers' subscriptions. After the sale was over, the animal is taken once more around by the "Forecastle" in order to take a last look at his old home. During the progress of the procession, the requiem of the Dead Horse is sung, a kind of ditty, with the refrain "Poor Old Man" (Poor Mary Ann). Finally, the poor old thing is set on fire, and thrown overboard. Three cheers were given, grog was served round the sailors, the hat was passed round the passengers, and then the ceremony was all over.

ROYALIST COMPOSITION PAPERS.—The Council of the Record Society for Lancashire and Cheshire, in their annual report say—An opportunity offered to have the Royalist Composition Papers examined at the Public Record Office by Mr E. Rowley Morris, a gentleman who was thoroughly familiar with that class of Records. Mr Morris made a full report on those relating to Lancashire, and so valuable were these documents considered, that he was instructed to make full abstracts of all relating to that county. This has occupied him for several months, and he has transmitted to the Hon. Secretary a very large quantity of manuscript material, sufficient for two or three of the Society's volumes. The Council are making arrangements for these papers to be printed, and the Rev. J. H. Stanning, M.A., has kindly undertaken to edit them. The simplest arrangement will probably be an alphabetical one, as that will bring the many scattered documents together under the name of the person to whom they relate. Much light is thrown by these records on the tyrannical and arbitrary means employed by those in authority in confiscating the property of the Royalists, and the hardships that the latter had to undergo. These Royalist Composition Papers, relating as they do to a period (1644 to 1652) of very great public interest, will make singularly valuable volumes for the history of Lancashire, and will supply a mass of information entirely new, the very existence of which, up to a few years ago, was unsuspected. Those relating to Cheshire, which have not yet been transcribed, will be found equally valuable and equally little known.

RE-OPENING OF KINNERLEY CHURCH.

The parish church of Kinnerley was re-opened on Thursday, after undergoing renovation. The church of St. Mary is a building of stone in a debased Italian style, consisting of a chancel and nave and an embattled tower, containing a clock and three bells. The tower is dated 1600, and was restored in 1862 in memory of the wife of the Rev. E. W. O. Bridgeman, then vicar: the nave and chancel were enlarged and restored in 1755. In the chancel there is a monument sacred to the memory of the Rev. John Bridgeman, P.D., Bishop of Chester, 1619–60. The register dates from the year 1677. The living is a vicarage, tithe rent charge £160; yearly value £170, including 30 acres of glebe, with residence, in the gift of the Earl of Braiford, and held since 1876 by the Rev. John Blunt

Meredith, B.A., of St. John's College, Oxford. The charities amount to £18 yearly, and every fourth year a sum of £24 is received from Mrs Esther Farmer's charity. The work of renovating the church has been carried out by Messrs W. H. Thomas and Co. of Oswestry, from plans prepared by Messrs Oswell and Smith of Shrewsbury. The whole of the old seats and flooring have been taken out, and the aisles have been laid with encaustic tiles in herring-bone pattern. The bulk of the floor has been laid with wood blocks of the same pattern. The seats of the nave and chancel are composed of varnished pitch-pine. The walls are coloured, and also the ceiling. The chancel floor has been re-laid with geometric encaustic tiles, and the communion table has been re-painted. It is proposed to make further alterations in a little while, such as the erection of a porch and pulpit, the place of the latter being supplied at present by the reading desk. The whole of the work, which cost £250, has been carried out in the most complete and satisfactory manner.

The presents to the church were numerous, including a reading desk, in the form of an eagle, presented by Mrs Payne, Pentre Ucha, in memory of the Rev. F. E. H. Payne; service books, by Mr Fletcher Rogers, Oswestry; a credence table, by Mrs Griffiths, The Lane; two massive oak chairs, by Mrs Walter Jones; a credence paten, by Miss Downes; candlesticks for the Communion table, by Mrs Blaikie, Oswestry; vases and a chalice veil by the Misses Payne, Pentre Ucha; cross for the Communion table by the Rector and Mrs Meredith; the altar desk, by Mrs Downes, The Argoed; the collecting plates by Mrs Moon, Llanymynech; book markers, by Miss Peake; altar linen, by Miss Leigh of Oswestry; and altar cloth, worked by the Misses Bridgeman. The curtain across the tower, the kneelers, the carpet for altar step, and the mats are being provided for by a special collection made by the Rector and Mrs Meredith.

The Late Lord de Tabley.

Lord de Tabley died at Tabley Hall, Cheshire, on Wednesday morning. The deceased, who was the second baron, was born on the 28th of October, 1811, and was educated at Eton and at Christ Church College, Oxford. He succeeded to the title and estates in 1827, and assumed by Royal licence the surname and arms of Warren in place of Leicester in 1832. He was a lord-in-waiting at the Court from 1853 to 1858, and again from 1859 to 1866, and two years later he took up the office of Treasurer of the Household, which he filled until 1872. He was Lieutenant-Colonel of the Earl of Chester's Yeomanry for over twenty-two years, and was very popular in the regiment, a presentation being made to him on his retirement, in 1869. He was also deputy-lieutenant and a justice of the peace for Cheshire. His lordship married first, in 1832, Catharine Barbara, daughter of Jerome, Count de Salis Soglio. She died in 1869, and by her he had three sons and three daughters, one of whom married Sir Baldwin Leighton. He married again, in 1871, Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr Shaleros Jason, of Newton Bank, Cheshire, and widow of Mr H. J. Smith-Barry, of Marbury Hall. His son, the Hon. John Leicester Warren, born April 25, 1865, succeeds him. In 1860 he was called to the bar. In 1863 he stood as a Liberal candidate for the mid-division of Cheshire, but was defeated. He is the author of several poems, including "Philoctetes," "Searching the Net," &c., and is an ardent numismatist, and has a remarkably fine private collection of coins. The remains of the late Lord de Tabley were interred on Saturday, in the family vault in the Dutton Chapel of Great Budworth Church, Cheshire. The deceased had been long and closely con-

nected with Freemasonry, and many of the brethren were present, but, in accordance with his expressed wish, there was no display or ceremonial.

The Late Harold Lees, Esq.,

We regret to record the death of Mr Harold Lees of Pickhill Hall, near Wrexham, which took place rather suddenly on Friday morning. At half past nine, just after breakfast, Mr Lees was taken ill in the hall, and but for the footman he would have fallen to the floor. Assistance was procured, and Mr Lees was carried in an unconscious state to his bedroom. Dr. Gobat of Overton was sent for, and on his arrival it was apparent that Mr Lees was suffering from a severe paralytic stroke. Dr Richard Williams of Wrexham was also sent for, but on his arrival about half-past eleven, the patient had peacefully passed away. The news of the unexpected death of Mr Lees cast quite a gloom over the whole district, and especially in the neighbourhood of Pickhill, where he was so much esteemed by his friends, tenants, and employés for his kindly and genial disposition. His loss will be greatly felt throughout the counties of Denbigh and Flint, for which he was a justice of the peace, and by the poor of the parish Mr Lees will be sorely missed. As an instance of the interest which Mr Lees, together with his wife, took in any good work that was being carried on in the neighbourhood, it may be stated that a sale of work was to have been held in Pickhill Park on Saturday, in aid of funds for providing for the efficient nursing of the sick in the village of Bangor Isycoed. For this event everything had been prepared, and arrangements made at the Hall, and on Friday evening the postponement of the sale of work was announced. Mr Lees was a Churchman, and in politics a staunch Conservative, and in the election of 1885 he and Mrs Lees took an active part in assisting the candidature of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. Although fond of sport, his chief amusements being hunting, fishing, and shooting, Mr Lees not having of late a very robust constitution, was unable to indulge in these pastimes as much as he wished. Some two years ago Mr Lees had two attacks of paralysis which prostrated him, but from which he soon recovered. The deceased was a son of Mr Jeremiah Lees of Kelso, Stalybridge, and in 1855 married Ellen, daughter of Mr Stanton Preston, who now survives him without issue. In 1868 Mr and Mrs Lees took up their residence at Pickhill, and have since that time employed a large number of persons on the estate. Mr Lees, who was a cousin of Mr G. J. Dumville Lees of Woodhill, Oswestry, was in his 53rd year. The remains were interred yesterday in Bangor Isycoed Churchyard. The funeral was largely attended.

The Late Chevalier Floyd of Clochfaen.

It is with much regret, which will be shared by many of our readers, especially in the neighbourhood of Llanidloes and Llangurig, that we record the death of the Chevalier Jacob Youde William Lloyd, M.A., K.S.G., of Clochfaen. The Chevalier died at Ventnor, in the Isle of Wight, on Friday, the 14th instant, at the age of seventy, after a short illness.

The Chevalier, who was of illustrious Welsh descent, was the son of the late Jacob William Hinde, Esq., of Langham Hall, Essex, Lord of that Manor, by Harriet, daughter and co-heir of the late Rev Thomas Youde of Clochfaen and Plas Madoc. He was educated at Wadham College, Oxford, and on the 12th of December, 1868, he received Her Majesty's licence to assume the name and also to bear the arms of Lloyd of Clochfaen. In early life the Chevalier, then Mr Hinde, entered

into holy orders and was appointed curate of Old Chapel, Llandinam. Before very long Mr Hinde went over to the Church of Rome, at a time when there was a considerable secession from the Anglican Communion; and when he succeeded to his mother's property, on her death in 1856, he expended a large portion of it on the Church of his adoption. It was when the waves of Italian independence began that he joined the Pontifical Zouaves, in defence of the temporal power of the Pope, serving as a private, and in 1870 he was created a Knight of the Order of St. Gregory the Great by Pope Pius IX. In 1875, not being able to accept the new Papal dogmas which had been promulgated, the Chevalier for a time discarded his title, but it continued to be given to him by others, and for many years he has always been known as the Chevalier Lloyd. We believe he was gradually estranged from the Catholic Church.

It was not until 1877 that the Chevalier returned to Clochfaen, on which occasion he was received with public rejoicings, and from that time forward his hospitality was profuse, so that it is only a truthful inscription which is placed on the obelisk erected in his honour during his life time, and is to the following effect:—

A.D., 1885.

To the

Chevalier J. Y. M. Lloyd, M.A., K.S.G.,
Clochfaen.

Erected by the tenants and friends as a mark of gratitude and esteem for his unbounded liberality, extraordinary charitableness, and his restoration of the Parish Church at a cost of £11,000.

A friend to the poor, a father to the afflicted, and a Benefactor to all.

The recent history of the family and estates (as given in the *Montgomeryshire Collections* for 1868) is not without a touch of romance. In the early part of the last century the Abbey Cwmhir estates came into the family by marriage, but Mrs Lloyd, the owner, being imbecile in her old age, her cousin and trustee, Sir William Fowler, retained the management of the property and transmitted it to his son. Jenkyn Lloyd, who, in 1743, married Elizabeth Lloyd of Plas Madog, Denbighshire, began a lawsuit to recover these estates, and to meet the expense had to sell a considerable portion of the property at Clochfaen. The suit is said to have been progressing favourably up to Christmas, 1768, when Mr Lloyd proceeded to Shrewsbury to consult his medical adviser. At Shrewsbury he had an interview with Sir William Fowler, and a few days afterwards he died suddenly from the effects of poison supposed to have been administered to him in his medicine. Sir William Fowler, shortly after this, left England in a ship bound for Calcutta, which foundered, and all on board were lost. His son, Sir William, thereupon attempted to bring the litigation to an end by trying to carry off the young heiress of Clochfaen and Plas Madog from a school at Chester, but was foiled in his attempt, and compelled for this and other misdeeds to quit the country for ever. The Abbey Cwmhir estates afterwards came into possession of the Fowlers. Sarah, the above-mentioned heiress of Clochfaen and Plas Madog, married as her second husband the Rev. Thomas Youde, grandson of Francis Heude (or Youde), a French gentleman, who came from the court of St. Germain on a political mission to Sir Gruffydd Jefferies, of Acton, near Wrexham, and there became acquainted with and paid court to Miss Hill, of Rowley's Mansion, Shrewsbury. Her father, an adherent of the Prince of Orange, refused to sanction the marriage, because of Mr Heude's political opinions, and carried his daughter away from Acton to Shrewsbury, but she escaped and became the wife of Mr Heude. Mr Hill never forgave

her, and Mr and Mrs Youde did open penance in white in St. Chad's Church, Shrewsbury, to avert the effects of his anger. Mrs Sarah Youde was the mother of several children, including Harriet, who married Jacob William Hinde, Esq., and was the mother of the late Chevalier.

The Plas Madog estate subsequently passed into the hands of the late Mr G. H. Whalley, M.P., who held a mortgage upon it, and also, we believe, upon Clochfaen; but in 1885, at the rent-audit dinner, Mr Harrison, the agent, announced that the Chevalier had completed the purchase of Clochfaen, and thus come into the unencumbered possession of the domains of his ancestors.

To describe the arms of the late Chevalier would occupy too much of our space, so elaborate are they. The family traces its descent from "Gwrtheyrn Gwrtheneu or Vortigern, elected King of Britain 425," and later, from Tudor Trefor, and is connected by descent and marriage with many of the leading families of Wales.

Of the many beneficent works of the Chevalier during his residence at Llangurig we have often had occasion to write in these columns, and they will be fresh in the recollection of our readers. With rare generosity, though not a member of the Anglican Communion, he restored the parish church at great cost, and his benefactions to the poor were liberal and constant, so that he won the affection of his neighbours of all ranks, and his name will long be held in the warmest esteem.

The Chevalier was devoted to antiquarian pursuits and a contributor to the *Papers of the Powys-land Club*. His chief literary work was the *History of Powys-Fadog*, the publication of which began in 1881 and was recently completed, and he also assisted Mr Hamer in compiling the history of Llangurig parish, most of which appeared in the *Powysland Papers*.

The Chevalier, who was never married, is succeeded in the possession of the estates by his niece, Harriet Julia Morforwyn, who in 1867 married George Hope Verney, Esq., son of Sir Harry Verney.

On Friday the remains of the late Chevalier were interred in the parish churchyard, Llangurig, in the vault recently built by the deceased, the family vault under the chancel of the church, where the Lloyd family have been interred for generations, being full. The remains arrived at Llanidloes from Ventnor, Isle of Wight, on the morning of Friday, October 21st, about 6 o'clock. They were conveyed thence to Llangurig by hearse, followed by many friends, besides the chief mourners, from Llanidloes and neighbourhood. On arriving at the railway bridge, which is about a mile distant from the village, a procession was formed according to a previous arrangement, of the concourse of people assembled there to pay their last tribute of respect. The tenants took the lead, followed immediately by the hearse, on each side of which walked the bearers. Then came the chief mourners in seven carriages—Lieutenant-Colonel Verney and his son, Mr James Hope Verney, who is the heir to the Clochfaen estate, and Mr G. D. Harrison of Welshpool, who is also the agent, and amongst others were Sir Pryce Pryce-Jones of Newtown, the Rev. Father Hachett, of Welshpool, Mr G. Bassett, Mr J. R. Pryse, of Pantdrain, Dr. Morris, Llanidloes, Mr S. Ikin, Llanidloes, Mr L. P. Marshall, Mr Hywel Lloyd, Ruthin, Mr James Hinde, the Rev. J. Hughes, M.A., vicar of Llanidloes, Alderman Williams, ex-mayor of Llanidloes, Mr John Evans, agent, Mrs Brown, Llanidloes, Mr John Breese, Mr John Jenkins, Penygreen, Mr Robert Hughes, Mr D. L.

Kinsey, Mr John Davies, Mr W. Brown, Mr T. Humphreys, Mr Lloyd Morgan, Mr Edward Hamer, The Close, Mr G. Roberts, Mr S. Meddins, Mr R. Bunford, Mr James Hamer, Mr Edward Hamer, Short Bridge-street, Mr E. D. Marpole, the Rev. Lewis Thomas, Mr Edmund Hamer, and Mr Richard Ingram, then the ladies, and last of all the vehicles conveying those from a distance. As the procession passed through the town, the blinds of the private houses were drawn, and the shops were partially closed. Passing through the village of Cwmbellan the utmost stillness prevailed, the villagers all keeping within doors, and the blinds of all the houses were drawn. On approaching within two miles of the village the cortege was met by about four hundred people, consisting of the local gentry, the tenantry of the Clochfaen estate, and others gathered to pay the last tribute of respect to the Chevalier. Amongst those who joined the procession were Mr J. R. Pryse, Pantdrain, Mr L. P. Marshall, Mr H. L. Davies, Mr Griffiths, Troedlone, Mr Evans, Llwynrhyddod, Mr James Jones, Llwyngwyn, Dr. Morris, Mr R. D. Edwards, Mr J. Baxter Owen, Glandulas, Mr Lewis Evans, Mr Jones, Voel, Mr Rowbotham, &c. On reaching Tanllwyn, the coffin was taken from the hearse and placed upon a bier, which was carried by the tenants. On arriving at Llangurig the choristers of the parish church sang a Welsh hymn, and the procession, which would have been even larger than it was had it not been for another funeral in the parish taking place the same day, moved slowly up the village street, passing the monument which was erected to the Chevalier Lloyd in token of his numerous benefactions, and contributing £11,000 in restoring the parish church. The Rev. J. Hughes, vicar of Llanidloes, officiated, and the service was partly choral, Mr Harry Salter presiding at the organ. The church was crowded. The grave was lined with evergreens, the coffin being of polished oak with silver mounting, the plate bearing the inscription—

Jacob Youde William Lloyd,
of Clochfaen,
Died October 14th, 1887,
Aged 71 years.

The coffin on being lowered into the vault was covered with beautiful wreaths, which were sent by the following—Colonel Verney, Mrs Verney, Masters Verney, Mr Hywel Lloyd, Mrs Charles Hinde, Mr James Hinde, Mrs Jones Parry, Tremadoc, Mr J. R. Pryse, Pantdrain, Mrs Brown, Llanidloes, Mrs Mary Evans, Clochfaen, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Griffiths, Mr and Mrs G. D. Harrison, Welshpool, Mr and Mrs Gibbs, Ventnor, and others, besides many bunches of flowers. The abundance of flowers was, in this case, peculiarly appropriate, for the late Chevalier was passionately fond of them.

Our Llangurig correspondent writes—The immediate cause of death was angina pectoris. It was, no doubt, ill-health which caused the Chevalier to lead a secluded life at Clochfaen during the last six years. The deceased gentleman was not confined to his bed at all, and only to his room for 3 or 4 days. It was strange to see so many of the sterner sex in tears at the grave. One fact will explain this. The Chevalier's greatest friends were men much younger than himself. Many acts of his life show him to have been of broad religious sympathies. A curate at onetime in the Church of England,

a member of the Roman Catholic Communion, a founder of Roman Catholic chapels, a restorer of churches in connection with the Church of England, a subscriber to Nonconformist chapels, the donor of a cemetery to Nonconformists, of late years his religious opinions were of a very broad kind. He never, as a man of wealth, forgot to discharge his duty to the poor, to his tenants, and to the public generally, and this in a most admirable manner.

The Late Rev. W. Powell.

Early on Saturday morning Oct. 15, this eminent Wesleyan minister breathed his last at his residence at Llangollen, at the ripe age of eighty years. For a period of nearly half a century Mr Powell was known throughout North and South Wales as one of the finest preachers of his day, and his ministrations were sought after at anniversary meetings far and wide. In his earlier years he was a frequent contributor to the periodicals of the Wesleyan denomination, his writings, like his sermons, possessing a peculiar originality of thought which specially distinguished him from all his contemporaries. During his long and successful career as a minister he was stationed at nearly all the chief circuits of the Connection, and never failed to endear himself to every one with whom he came in contact. Many years ago, owing chiefly to severe periodical attacks of a kind of nervous despondency, he was allowed by the Conference to give up his duties as a minister of a circuit, and became a supernumerary. He settled down with his family at Llanfyllin, where, for many years, he rendered himself very useful to the cause, while he received frequent invitations from different parts of the country to preach. About eight years ago, chiefly through the influence of the late Captain John Paul, he was induced to take up his residence in Llangollen, and became the pastor of the small Church connected with the English Wesleyan Methodists of that town. His ministry in the English tongue was characterized by great earnestness, pathos, and strong conviction, and his originality of style was specially enjoyed by the English visitors, who during the summer season take up their residence in Llangollen.

For the last twelve months Mr Powell's health had been gradually failing, and throughout the whole of that time he had been utterly unable to take part in any work connected with his public ministry. For the past few weeks it was evident that his long and useful life was fast drawing to a close. At half-past one on the morning of Saturday last, without the slightest struggle, he calmly and peacefully passed away. He leaves behind him three daughters.

On Wednesday the remains of Mr Powell were removed from his residence, Bryntirion, Llangollen, by rail to Llansantffraid, and thence, the following day, by road to Meifod, for interment in the family vault. A large concourse of ministers and laymen from Llangollen and surrounding district, as well as from distant parts of the Principality, assembled at the house at 4 o'clock, on Wednesday, where the preliminary service was conducted by the Rev William Davies, Llangollen, superintendent of the Welsh Circuit, and the Rev J. W. Eacott, Wrexham, superintendent of the English Circuit. The funeral procession was then formed, and the mournful cortege entered the Welsh Wesleyan Chapel to the strains of the "Dead March," which was effectively played by Mr J. Hiram Davies. The coffin having been placed in front of the communion rail, the Rev W. Davies undertook the conduct of the service. After the service the funeral procession was re-formed, and by this time the

number of people present had greatly augmented, and numbered several hundreds. All along the line of route to the station, and indeed throughout all parts of the town, blinds were drawn, and the shops partially closed, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The interment took place at Meifod on Friday, amidst signs of deep regret. The body, which had been brought over by rail from Llangollen to Llansantffraid, arrived in Meifod about 10 p.m. on Thursday. A funeral service was held at the Wesleyan Chapel at two p.m. The coffin, which was brought into the chapel, was covered with a number of beautiful wreaths. The services, both in the chapel and at the grave, were under the leadership of the Rev. Joseph Owen. In front of the chapel, after the service, a procession was formed, two abreast, led by the ministers. As the procession was going along the churchyard, the children of the National Schools stood arranged in two long rows, the smaller ones in front. The scene was an impressive one. The funeral was conducted under the regulations of the new Burials Bill, and there was no service in Church, neither was there the sound of a bell heard. The Meifod Churchyard is in the way of becoming a sacred spot for the Wesleyan Connexion in Wales. It was here the first ordained minister of the Welsh Wesleyans was buried, the Rev. T. Roberts, of Bangor, over whose grave a monument, raised by public subscription, was put a few years ago. Here also were buried the remains of the Rev. Methuselah Thomas, a very eminent and successful minister in his day.

NOVEMBER 2, 1887.

NOTES.

AN OLD CHESHIRE PROVERB.—“There are (according to Pegge in his “Anonymiana,” 1809, p. 105) five different ways of spelling the following name, *Lea, Lee, Legh, Leigh, Ley*. There are such numbers of the name in Cheshire that they have a common saying there, ‘as many Leghs as fleas; and as many Davenport as dogs’ tails.”

G.H.B.

Cardiff.

HOW SUNDAY WAS ENDED IN DOLGELLEY IN 1820.—The following extract is from an account of a visit paid to Dolgelley sent by a correspondent to the April No. of the *Cambro Briton* for 1820. It is with a sigh I send it to the *Bye-Gones* column, because *good customs* in towns and villages are not so plentiful that one cares to record the death of any—

As we entered the town my friend offered to conduct me to the Town Hall, where the children of the Sunday School were assembled to sing hymns, the usual, indeed the constant, mode of closing the Sabbath at Dolgelley. I accepted the offer with great pleasure, and we soon arrived at the Hall, where we found many of the respectable inhabitants gathered together. The singing had already commenced, and the singers were performing with much sweetness and simplicity the evening hymn. They finished this and several others, some in Welsh and some in English, and then with their auditors departed to their rest.

Would that the custom could be revived, not only at Dolgelley, but in our villages and small hamlets, where

the schoolroom could take the place of the Town Hall. What a happy sight it would be, and what unionism for good would flow from it!

R. DAVIES.

Rhiwlas.

 QUERIES.

OWEN GWYNEDD'S ARMS.—If any correspondent should answer the Query of SEGONTIUM I should be obliged if he would at the same time say what is the earliest document in which a reference is made to the Arms Owen Gwynedd bore. I have no doubt the Arms ascribed to him are accurately described by SEGONTIUM, but what I should like to ascertain is, what reliance is to be placed upon the person who first so ascribed them.

IORWERTH.

WELSH NATIONAL PARTY: ITS EMBLEM, MOTTO, AND COLOURS.—I noticed in the Supplement to the *Oswestry Advertiser* of October 12th that the “Welsh National Party” adopted—for its Emblem, *the Leek*; Motto, *Cymru Fydd*; Colours, *Green and White*. Chambers's Etymological Dictionary defines Emblem—“a picture representing to the mind something different from itself; a type or symbol.” If the query were not considered hypercritical, I should like to ask if the use of the vocable “Emblem” accurately represents the intentions of those who decided to adopt the Leek. “Badge” probably would more accurately define the intention, but that would land us in this difficulty—that the *Badge* of the Principality of Wales is a *Dragon with wings expanded, gules, on a mount vert*.

CADWALADR.

OLD CHAPEL, OSWESTRY.—I take the following from a report of the recent Ecclesiastical Exhibition at Wolverhampton in connection with the Church Congress:—

Another exhibit of exceptional interest was sent by Mr. A. Staveley Hill, Q.C., M.P.; it is an official permission, bearing the autograph of Charles II., to hold a convocation. The document, which is partially printed, runs thus:—CHARLES, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all Mayors, Bayliffs, Constables, and other Officers and Ministers, Civil and Military, whom it may concern, greeting. In pursuance of Our Declaration of the 15th of March 167 $\frac{1}{2}$ We have allowed, and We do hereby allow, of a Room or Rooms in the house of Hugh Edwards at Oswestry, Shropshire, to be a place for the Use of such as do not conform to the Church of England, who are of the Perswasion commonly called Congregational, to meet and assemble in, in order to their public Worship and Devotion. And all singular Our Officers and Ministers, Ecclesiastical, Civil, and Military, whom it may concern, are to take due notice hereof. And they, and every one of them, are hereby strictly charged and required to hinder any tumult or disturbance, and to protect them in their said Meetings and Assemblies. Given at Our Court at Whitehall, the 25th day of July in the 24th year of Our Reign, 1672.

By His Majestie's command

ARLINGTON.

Do the archives of the Chapel furnish any information as to who “Hugh Edwards” was? N.

"DOWN WITH THE RUMP."—In the year 1716 there was a great riot in the town of Newtown, which resulted in proceedings being taken against some of the parties. The foregoing was the cry used by the people. In a hurried perusal of one of the depositions I failed to get at the meaning of the cry, or what was the cause of the disturbance. Thinking some reader of *Bye-Gones* in that vicinity may have heard of "Down with the rump," I send this query, asking for any information that will tend to elucidate what appears to be a very curious phrase.

PEARMAN.

REPLIES.

WELSH MAGISTRATES (Sept. 21, Oct. 5, 12, 19, 1887).—In reply to "W.O." who asks, if only eight magistrates were allowed for each Welsh county by Henry VIII., how comes it that twenty appear on the Breconshire list supplied by PEARMAIN, and nineteen for Montgomeryshire, I can only say that I have scanned the Breconshire list, which really only contains *eight local men* out of the twenty; all the other names appear to be those of Court officials and law officers, including *two bishops*! What the Bishop of Chester and the Bishop of Bath and Wells had to do with the *practical* administration of justice in the county of Brecon, is more than I can fathom.

Brecknock.

EDWIN POOLE.

THE VORD GRON (July 6, 27, 1887).—It is only this week, in the quarterly issue of *Bye-Gones*, that I noticed the appeal of your correspondent BERWYN (July 27) for further information respecting the Vord Gron, the literary guild established by my dear and much-lamented friend Mr Ceiriog Hughes. If not too late, I now append a printed circular issued to the "Comrades" after a meeting of the Vord at Wrexham, and also a copy of the Probatory Rules, which perhaps will be considered too lengthy for publication. The Society was vigorous for about two years, and effected, I believe, some good; and I remember some interesting gatherings in London, under the hospitable roof of the late Rev. Robert Jones, vicar of All Saints, Rotherhithe. Mr Jones's patriotic enthusiasm, Estyn's acquaintance with ancient British lore, and Ceiriog's mastery of Masonic ritual, combined to produce the symbolic phraseology which was so distinctive a characteristic of the Vord Gron. The death within a short period of Sir Hugh Owen, the Rev. Robert Jones, Mr Joseph Edwards the sculptor, Mynyddog, and other active members of the fraternity, greatly discouraged Ceiriog, and after a while the work of Eisteddfod reform was taken up by, and the Vord was merged in, the less mysterious but more comprehensive "National Eisteddfod Association," which had no more loyal supporter than Mr Ceiriog Hughes.

W. CADWALADR DAVIES.

University College of North Wales, Bangor.

THE VORD GRON.

Meeting of Delegates at the Council Chamber, Guildhall, Wrexham, on Thursday, 11th November, 1875. Present—Messrs A. J. Brereton (Andreas o Von), Mold, W. Cadwaladr Davies, London, Hugh Derwin Davies, Wrexham, D. Griffith (Clwydfardd), Denbigh, J. Ceiriog Hughes, Caerswyn, Rev David Jones (Druisyn), Ceodpoeth, Dr Evan Jones, Ruabon, Rev Robert

Jones, M.A., All Saints' Vicarage, Rotherhithe, Rev T. R. Lloyd (Estyn), Llanfynydd Rectory, Mr Hugh Owen, London, and Mr William Williams (Gwilym Deiniol).

The Vord was opened in due form by Mr Ceiriog Hughes, after which Mr Hugh Owen was unanimously voted to the chair.

The following Resolutions, after being fully considered and discussed, were proposed, seconded, and carried, viz.:

1. That an Inner Council be elected for the purpose of transacting the executive business of the Order, with power of veto over all candidates for admission into the fraternity, and that the Council consist of five Comrades from London and seven from the provinces—three to form a quorum.

2. The Inner Council, consisting of five Comrades from London and seven from the provinces, was then elected.

3. That Messrs J. Ceiriog Hughes and W. Cadwaladr Davies be Secretaries of the Inner Council.

4. That Mr Stephen Evans and Mr Joseph Edwards, of London, be requested to act as joint treasurers of the Vord Gron; and that the moneys of the Order should be deposited in the Bank of England in their names.

5. That there shall only be one treasury for the whole fraternity, and that it shall be located in London.

6. That the Inner Council shall meet in London or some other place as the Council itself may from time to time decide.

7. That the Secretaries, on receiving a requisition signed by three members of the Inner Council, shall convene a meeting of that body at such time and place as may be specified in the requisition, but that no meeting shall be empowered to transact business unless one of the secretaries be present.

8. Before adjourning for luncheon, the Chairman was requested to draw out a series of propositions to be considered, with the view of adoption as the principles of the Order; and, on re-assembling, the Chairman submitted the following, which were unanimously adopted, and ordered to be embodied in the Rules:—

(a) The aim of every Comrade shall be to be good and to do good, to love his neighbour, and to do unto others as he would have others to do unto him.

(b) To encourage the practice of self-denial as one of the noblest of virtues, and to mark selfishness as among the most odious of vices.

(c) The Order does not take cognisance of the views of its members on politics or religion, nor of the relations of employer and employed.

(d) It seeks to advance the interests of Wales and its people morally, educationally, and materially.

(e) It will assist in promoting a taste for literature and in extending a knowledge of the arts and sciences, mechanical and manufacturing skill.

(f) It will seek by such means as may from time to time be deemed expedient, to render the Eisteddfod as helpful as possible to the furtherance of these objects.

(g) It will seek to secure the observance of regulations that shall limit the Gorsedd Degrees to those only whose qualifications have been certified by some recognized authority.

9. That the Anniversary of the Order should be held on the second Tuesday of May, and that the first should be held next year at Wrexham.

10. That Local Branches of the Order be formed wherever practicable, for the purpose of carrying out the objects of the Vord Gron. That every Local Branch should elect a Secretary, whose name should be communicated to the Inner Council. That the Local Branch be empowered to receive the names of candidates for admission, which must be transmitted to the General Secretaries, who will convey to the Local Branch the authority of the Inner Council to admit the approved Candidates to the full privileges of membership.

11. That every candidate should pay his subscription immediately after being accepted by the Inner Council.

12. That the Chairman, the Rev Robert Jones, and the two Secretaries, be a Committee to further consider the minutes, printed copies of which were ordered to be sent to every Comrade.

13. That the best thanks of the meeting be accorded to Mr Hugh Owen for his able conduct in the chair, and to Mr J. Ceiriog Hughes for his praiseworthy exertions in the establishment of the Order.

The following gentlemen were duly initiated as Comrades:—Mr C. Spencer Thorn, solicitor, Wrexham, Rev Griffith Jones, curate of Wrexham, Mr John Hughes, Mold, and Mr Robert Williams (Hirlwyd), Wrexham.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr Philip Williams of Aberystwyth, who had been a member of the Aberystwyth Town Council for about a quarter of a century, died last week, aged 70. Mr Williams had filled some important offices in connection with the Calvinistic Methodist denomination.

The will of the Hon. and Rev. Edward Hanbury-Tracy, brother of the first Lord Sudeley, who died on the 12th of September, at Gipsy-hill, Upper Norwood, was proved by the Rev. Frederick Peel, the Hon. Hubert Hanbury-Tracy, the nephew, and Mr Arthur Black, the executors, the value of the personalestate amounting to over £77,000. After various legacies he leaves the residue of his estates to his great-nephews who shall be seeking their livelihoods as emigrants in any British Colony or in the United States of North America, or shall, within twelve months of his decease, take, to the satisfaction of his executors, steps for effecting such object, or in the diplomatic or consular service, in equal shares.

The following is an extract from "Leaves from our Early Issues" (from July 29 to September 2, 1819), in the *North Wales Chronicle*:—Morris Jones, the Wesleyan preacher, who was stopped preaching in the public streets in the town of Carnarvon, the 18th inst., had the audacity to mount a chair, by certain dwelling houses adjoining the Green, in the same town on Wednesday evening, the 21st inst., without the consent of the possessors of such houses, and there preached in open defiance of the law. The Acting Magistrates in the district by no means wish to interfere in religious meetings if they can avoid it, but they are determined to put a stop to illegal meetings; and, to convince Morris Jones that he is not to call the populace together in the public streets and unlicensed places, he was, on Thursday morning, fined in the mitigated sum of £5 instead of £30, which he had forfeited by preaching in the manner before stated.—We understand Morris Jones had the effrontery to preach on the Green, Beaumaris, on Sunday fortnight, before an immense assemblage of deluded people, called together, no doubt, by the novelty of a person haranguing in the open air. We trust the magistrates will prevent the recurrence of a scene so unlawful, as well as indecorous.

DEATH OF MR W. L. FOULKES.—On Wednesday, Mr William Langford Foulkes died at his shooting quarters, Rackery Hall, near Gresford, at the age of 68. Mr Foulkes was well-known in Wrexham, where he was born in 1818, being the son of Mr John Foulkes, solicitor. He was articled to Messrs Longueville and Williams of Oswestry, about 1835, but at the expiration of his articles he entered for the Bar at the Middle Temple, and became a barrister on the North Wales Circuit. He formed one of the four who in 1844 obtained exclusive audience for barristers to the exclusion of solicitors at the Ruthin and Mold Quarter Sessions. Mr Foulkes was a consistent Liberal, and was one of the oldest members of the Reform Club. In July, 1852, he was a Liberal candidate for the Denbigh Boroughs, opposing Mr West of Ruthin Castle, being defeated by a majority of 74. Mr Foulkes was a magistrate for the borough of Wrexham, but has not acted for several years.

NOVEMBER 9, 1887.

NOTES.

RUTTER OF KINGSLEY, CHESHIRE.—Some members of various branches of this family are collecting materials for a history of it, and would be grateful for any information sent to G. Rutter Fletcher, solicitor, 14, Finsbury-square, London, E.C. G.R.F.

SURNAMES.—The surname *Shute*, borne by several families at Newtown, is derived from the Welsh word *Syth* (straight). This I discovered on reference to the Parish Registers of Llanbrynmair, where the surname is at first written *Syth*; some years later *Sute*; then *Shoot* and *Shute*. I have the same authority for stating that *Tudge*, also a Montgomeryshire name, was originally *Twoods* ("At Woods"). R.W.

BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY, AN EARLY COMMISSION OF THE PEACE.—A *Patent* of 160. Hen. VIII. *pars* 2, 28d (4d) has the following names as Magistrates of the Borough of Shrewsbury:—

The Bailiffs
Edmund Colle
Robert Dudley
Adam Mitton
William Janyns
Ranulph Byston
Edward Bent
Hugh Phillips

BOOKWORM.

THE REV. WALTER DAVIES.—Cain Jones's Welsh Almanack for 1784 contains a Song or Ballad by this eminent poet and antiquary entitled "*Cân a wnaed o rybydd i gantorion Salmau Dafydd*." As he was born in 1761, he could not have been more than 22 years of age when he wrote this song, which is the earliest specimen of his poetry I have seen. It is not among his collected works. R.W.

BURIAL IN LINEN.—There have been many references in *Bye-Gones* to the old custom of Burial in Woollen, but I do not think that note has been taken of the subjoined extract from the parish books of St. Peter's, Chester, which would seem to prove that among the higher classes, at all events, linen superseded woollen:—

February 2, 1686. Received fifty shillings from Mr Richard Minshall, being a forfeiture for burying his mother in linen, and distributed among the poor.

This Richard Minshall was Mayor of Chester in 1657, and nearly related to Elizabeth Minshall, the third wife of John Milton.

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

PLACE NAMES.—I have in my possession "an accurate map of Shropshire, by Eman, Bowen, Geogr. to His Majesty," dated 1749, in which there are many variations from the present spelling of names of places in this locality. I give several—"Hangwood Common" for "Hengoed." This extends from near Porkington to "Selattin" as it is spelt. "Old Oswestry" is styled "Hen Dinas"; "Cordigar Forest" for "Coedygaer"; "Trevelagh Forest" for "Trefflach"; "Lundis"; for "Llynclys"; "Swiney" for "Sweeney"; "Grennen" for "Gwernybrenin"; "Cromwell" for "Crumpwell"; "Knuckin" for "Knockin"; "Kingersley" for "Kinnerley." Oswestry is described as "Oswestry or Oswaldestre (so called from Oswald, King of Northumberland, who is said to have been killed in battle on this spot), a Market Town enclosed with a Wall and Ditch, and defended by a Castle. The Market is remarkable for the great quantity of Welsh Cottons of a fine light Texture which are Sold here and carried to the most remote parts of the Nation." The map is very

well engraved, and evidently prepared with great care. It would be interesting to inquire as to the orthography of the various places alluded to. J.

QUERIES.

REV. ROWLAND NEVETT.—Is anything known of the descendants of this clergyman, who was episcopally ordained, and was first vicar of Stanton, Salop, and subsequently vicar of Oswestry, from which he was ejected in 1662? He is buried at Morton. X.

A CURIOUS SUPERSTITION.—A woman recently died at Llansantffraid-Glyn-Ceiriog in child-birth, upon which the following conversation was heard in Oswestry:—"What a many have died this year in that way. They say it happens so every seven years; and they say the year in which the bear breeds is fatal to women in child-birth." Can any one throw light on this superstition? BONWM.

CURIOUS SUPERSTITIONS ABOUT THE RIVER DEE.—It is believed that the Dee in its course through Llyn Tegid flows through without mingling its waters with those of the lake; and in days gone by it is said that the changing of the direction of its channel in meandering through the valleys was supposed to indicate the success or reverse of the arms of the contending nationalities who so often fought upon its banks. What is the earliest reference in literature to these superstitions? CARROG.

MACHYNLLETH STREETS.—The names of streets in our old towns are of great interest in perpetuating events, or individuals, or peculiarities in local history. The names of the Machynlleth streets are worth examination in these respects. Those who know Machynlleth are aware that the three principal streets occupy very much the position of the limbs of a capital T. Thus Pentre Maengwyn forms the column of the letter, and Pentre-yr-Allt and Pentre Rhedyn the two arms. There is a curious difference between the ancient and modern names of these streets, and I should like a suggestion as to the possible cause of the change. In the earliest contemporary record which I have seen, dated the very end of the fifteenth century, the streets are named as follows:—The street now called Pentre Maengwyn is called *Stryt* or *Stryde* or *Street Gwyr Kyfeiliog*; Pentre-yr-Allt is called *Stryt Gwyr Gwyneth*; and Pentre Rhedyn, *Stryt Gwyr Deheubarth*. In the seventeenth century the names now in use appear; and as late nearly as the middle of the eighteenth (the latest date I have is 1726) the two names are used together, as, for example, "pentre rhedyn al's street gwyr deheubarth." It is clear that the old names of the streets were suggested by the situation of the town at the junction of the three great divisions of Wales, Gwynedd, Powys, and Deheubarth. The old town was evidently of importance as a meeting place for commercial and social purposes for the inhabitants of the three great divisions. This is shown by its choice by Owen Glyndwr as a central spot for the meeting of his so-called Parliament, and by the fact so often mentioned in deeds transferring property, &c., in the surrounding counties, where the "poarche of ye parishe church of Maghenlleth" is fixed upon as the

place of settlement. Can anyone suggest a reason for the change from the older names, indicative of the persons by whom the streets were especially used, to their designation by mere local objects, Yr Allt, Maengwyn, &c.; it could not have been made for distinction and scarcely for abbreviation? Newo.

REPLIES.

POPULATION OF WALES (Oct. 12, 1887).—A query was inserted in this column as to the population of Wales at several different periods, to which, hitherto, no reply has been given. In perusing the report of the "Nottingham Liberal Conference" in your last issue, I noticed that Professor Ellis Edwards, Bala College, stated that "two hundred years ago the Episcopal Church of England had all the country (Wales) except one-fourth of the population." I think the next two sentences refer to the present century, though at first sight they read as if they referred to the century ending (about) two hundred years ago. If the learned Professor, or any correspondent who knows, would say what was the number of the *one-fourth*, it would partially answer the original query; and thus further the object I had in view in asking the first question. I need not say my query had not, nor has, anything whatever to do with Establishment, Disestablishment, or politics in any form. W. O.

HARVEST CUSTOMS (Sep. 28, Oct. 12, 19, 26, 1887).—On the borders of Shropshire and Montgomeryshire the custom yet lingers of the harvestmen assembling on some high ground on the night the harvest is finished, and, after giving several hearty Hip, hip, hurrahs, concluding with shouting "Mr A. for ever, Mr B. down the river;" Mr A. being of course their employer, and Mr B. some one who has either not finished his harvest or is for some reason unpopular with them. A rhyme sometimes used on these occasions runs as follows:—

Well ploughed, well sowed,
Well reaped, well mowed,
Well hauled home,
Ne'er a load overthrown;

concluding, of course, with the usual quantity of Hip, hip, hurrahs, and a liberal allowance of the old harvest beer, the secret of brewing which seems likely to be forgotten. Either the brewers of the harvest beer of the present day use too much sugar or too little malt and hops, and too much water; anyhow that beverage does not seem to have the same inspiring and enlivening effect on people now as it did in my younger days. Why is this? A. Y. Z.

When a lad some fifty years ago I was present on two occasions assisting my father's men to "cry the mare." This occurred in Newtown parish. The formula was something like those already printed in *Bye-Gones*:—

I have her.
What hast Thou? A mare!
Where wilt thou send her?
To Mr

I remember there was a good deal of rivalry as to finishing harvest first. I have seen the men throwing their sickles at a few heads of wheat left standing, called by them "cutting the mare;" and I particularly remember

they used to catch hold of the end of the blade of the sickle, not the handle, in the operation of throwing it. When the last load was in the rick-yard, a feast was provided for that night, and beer ad lib. Songs were sung, and once I witnessed a drunken fight between two of the men; the cause of quarrel was one of the servant maids. I can fix the date of this by the fact that it happened the night before the first fair held at Kerry. As one of the men had received a contused face in the encounter, he lay down in my father's waggon as he was going through the fair to another farm, because the waggoner was ashamed of letting the people see his black eyes. I heard the "cry of the mare" some twelve years ago, one night on the road between Churchstoke and Kerry. I recognized it. Z.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Rev. Evan Peters of Bala died last week after a long illness. Mr Peters, who was in his sixty-sixth year, was a devoted member of the Calvinistic Methodist body, and a zealous worker in the temperance cause.

A few days ago, Mrs Margaret Brace died at Typatrish Farm, Pembrey, Llanelly, at the age of 104 years. The old lady had been in the enjoyment of all her faculties, and was in excellent health up to a fortnight before her decease.

The eighth winter session of the Menai Society of Natural Science and Literature was opened on Thursday night by a conversazione and a loan exhibition of local antiquities, at the Masonic Hall, Bangor. A short inaugural address, dealing with the objects of special interest in the exhibition, was delivered by the Rev Elias Owen, M.A., Efenechtyd.

On the Vaynol estate, in the parish of Llanddeiniolen, an effective mode of commemorating the Queen's Jubilee will soon be visible, in the shape of a wood planted in such a manner that, owing to the size of the mountain and the extent of the planting with trees of different hues, the word "Jubilee" will be discernable from a distance of many miles. The mountain is called Moel Rhywen, and is near the village of Ebenezer, the area being about 220 acres. Mr Assheton Smith planted the first tree, and called on the men to give three cheers for the Queen. He then stated that it gave him the greatest pleasure to be able to employ a number of men in addition to his regular staff, as he was most anxious to do all he could to try and abate the distress prevailing in Llanddeiniolen and the outlying districts.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES, ABERYSTWYTH.—A large and valuable collection of North Welsh Cambro-Silurian fossils, collected by the late Mr D. C. Davies of Oswestry, has been presented to the College by Mr William Whitwell of London.

THE LATE MRS MYDDELTON BIDDULPH.—We regret to record the death of Mrs Myddelton Biddulph, widow of Colonel Myddelton Biddulph of Chirk Castle. The deceased lady was the second daughter of William Mostyn Owen, Esq., of Woodhouse, and was married in 1832. Many of our readers will remember the late Mrs Myddelton Biddulph during her residence at Chirk Castle; but for a considerable time she had lived chiefly in London, where she died, at 26, Grosvenor-place, on Friday last.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.—On Tuesday afternoon, November 1, a special meeting of the Council of the Cymmrodorion Society was held at the Library, Chancery Lane, to appoint a Secretary in place of Mr C. W.

Jones, who has held the appointment since the revival of the Society. The names of two gentlemen were submitted to the Council, and in the result Mr E. Vincent Evans was appointed.

THE CAMBRO BRITONS SOCIETY.—On Friday evening, Dr. Morgan Davies, President of the Cambro Britons Society, delivered the inaugural address of the winter session. His subject was "Gorchest Wleidyddol y Cymry." His paper went to shew the desirableness of directing the revival of national spirit in Wales into a channel consonant with the national characteristics of the Welsh people. The chair was occupied by the Vice-President, Mr Richard Roberts, B.A. Amongst those who took part in the discussion were Mr W. J. Parry, President of the North Wales Quarrymen's Union, whose name has been mentioned for the Parliamentary representation of the Carnarvon Boroughs, Mr Robert Parry, B.A., and the Chairman.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

A new illustrated magazine for book-lovers, is announced by Mr Elliot Stock, entitled *The Book-Worm*. The first number will be published on Nov. 25, and will contain introductory verses by Andrew Lang.

Mr Elliot Stock has published a *Catalogue of Manks Crosses* with the Runic Inscriptions and various readings and renderings compared, by Mr P. M. C. Kermode. The *Isle of Man* contains many monumental remains, and this record will be acceptable to antiquaries. It is highly satisfactory that the Manks Legislature is now protecting the antiquities of Man.

In the current Part of the *Montgomeryshire Collections* Mr Squires and Mr E. Rowley Morris continue their Paper on "Early Montgomeryshire Wills at Somerset House, &c.," which is annotated by the Rev. W. V. Lloyd. Some of these wills are of great interest, and much information can be gathered from them as to the old families of the county, the religious beliefs, and the social conditions of former times. The will of Richard ap Howell of Ednop, proved December 2nd, 1559, begins—

In the name of God Amen. The 7th days of August anno 1557, Richard ap Howell of Ednop, in the Parishes of Maynestone, in the countie of Salop, Esquier, being sicke in body and hoole in memory, praise be to God, doe make, ordayne and constitute my last will and testament in manner and forme following. first, and principally, I bequeath my soule to Allmightie God and to his blessed mother Sancte Mary the Virgin, and to all th' olly company of Heaven. Item, I bequeathe to my buriall 7 torches and fortie tapers to brenee over my bodie the day of my buriall, and also I bequeath tenne poundes to be distributed and parted among the poor, as myn executores and overseers hereunto named shall thincke meete.

The value of tobacco in 1631 may be inferred from the bequest of "ij lbs. of the best tobacco by Henry Whittingham, one of the Grooms of His Majesty's Privy Chamber," to Sir Robert Cooke, Knt.; and it is curious in several of these wills to see how carefully small articles of property were portioned out. Thus Margaret Vaughan of Llyssyn (1623) leaves "to my daughter, Dorothea Vaughan, 'my best mare, my newest and best Gowne, and my weddinge ringe; to daughter Magdalen, 'my Satten gowne; to Katherine (daughter), 'my satten petticoate, and a peece of blacke silk grogeram, which is in my trunk, to make her a gowne; to cousin, Judith Spencer, 'my silke grogeram gowne; to cousin, Mary Tannatt, wife of Edward Tannatt, gent., all the wool in this house at Lyssyn; to Sina, the wife of Rees Watkin, and Dyddgy, the wife of Edward Thomas ap John ap Hugh, £4." There is another welcome instalment of "Herbertiana," and the paper on "Montgomery Election Petition in 1685" gives a full account (from a book in the

Bodleian Library) of the substitution of Charles Herbert for William Williams, who had been elected surreptitiously by Montgomery without the cognizance of the other contributory boroughs. The fact, which comes out in the narrative of the proceedings, that "the said Boroughs were liable and contributory to the wages of the members," is interesting as bearing upon the modern proposal to remunerate parliamentary representatives. But the story of the Montgomery Petition, with the payment of the members, has been told before, we believe, in brief, in our columns. Mr Rowley Morris begins a History of the Family of Blayne, compiled from material which must have been collected at the cost of great labour, from correspondence with persons in this country, in Ireland, and in the United States, the investigation of parish registers, and other sources of information. Mr Morris deals first with the first Lord Blayne, who went from Wales to Ireland, where various members of the family endured severe sufferings and loss during the "Irish rebellion" in the reign of Charles I. Part II, deals with the Descendants of Sir Arthur Blayne and Joyce His Wife, one of whom was the Arthur who died in 1795, and whose character as it is drawn by Yorke will be remembered by all the readers of his *Royal Tribes*. Mr T. E. Pryce continues his "Half-Timbered Houses of Montgomeryshire" (which is illustrated), "M.C.J." his "Search after the History of a Spoon," and amongst the other contributions to an excellent number of the Transactions is a paper of considerable interest, "Itinerant Tradesmen that have passed or are passing away in the present Century," by the Rev. Elias Owen.

THE POWYSLAND CLUB. ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the members of the Powysland Club was held in the Museum, at Welshpool, on Monday. The Earl of Powis presided, and amongst those present were Mr Morris C. Jones and Mr Richard Williams, F.R.H.S., hon. secretaries, Mr C. W. Williams Wynno, Mr W. Fisher, Mr R. E. Jones, Lieut.-Col. R. J. Harrison, Mr Morris P. Jones, Mr Simpson Jones, Mrs and Miss Jones of Gungrog, Dr. Barrett, Col. Twyford, Mr Edward Jones, the Mayor of Welshpool (Mr T. R. Morris), Mr Elijah Pryce, Trederwen House, the Ven. Archdeacon Thomas, the Rev. D. Phillips Lewis of Llandrinio, the Rev. J. E. Hill, the Rev. Prebendary Matthews, the Rev. R. M. White, Mr P. A. Beck, Trelydan, Mr A. Howell, Rhieyport, Mr R. Hurst, Mr A. Roper, the Rev. E. A. and Mrs Brown, the Rev. F. and Mrs Hawkins, and Mr W. Rogers.

Mr RD. WILLIAMS read the annual report, which was as follows:—

The Report of the Council to the 20th Annual Meeting of the Powysland Club on 7th November, 1887.

The Council present their 20th Annual Report of the progress of the Powysland Club.

The Club has lost four of its members by death, viz., Rev. E. L. Barnwell and the Chevalier Llyd (both being members of the Council), and the Rev. Canon Hayman and Mr Thomas Rutter. Two members have resigned during the last year, and ten new members have been enrolled.

The Treasurer, after defraying all the liabilities of the Club up to the 1st October, has a balance in hand of £115 2s 11d.

The vacancies in the Council by the lamented death of the Rev. E. L. Barnwell and the Chevalier Llyd have been filled up provisionally by the appointment of A. C. Humphreys-Owen, Esq., and Lieut.-Colonel R. J. Harrison, which is submitted to the meeting for confirmation.

The 21st Volume of the Collections has been issued to the members.

In our 19th volume a notice appeared of an important volume of Mr W. Thompson Watkin on *Roman Cheshire*, which, it was pointed out, would form a model for other like works on neighbouring districts, and a hope was expressed that a similar

volume may be produced for POWYSLAND, or for (what, perhaps, would be a better division) the six counties of North Wales, and that the Powysland Club would co-operate in such an enterprise.

Mr W. Thompson Watkin is willing to entertain such a proposal and the matter is now under consideration. A volume on *Roman Wales* (Northern Division), giving a detailed account of all the Roman Antiquities and Remains discovered in North Wales, is a desideratum.

As to the transfer of the Museum property to the Corporation of Welshpool, the Council report that it was thought that the Queen's Jubilee year was an appropriate time for carrying into effect the intention of the Trust Deed of the 16th July, 1874, expressed in the 12th clause of that deed.

In sending his Worship the Mayor the formal acknowledgment for a donation to the Museum, the Hon. Secretary, Mr Morris C. Jones, forwarded to him a copy of the Trust Deed, calling his attention to the 12th Clause, and threw out the suggestion for consideration, whether the Jubilee year was not a fitting time for carrying the intention of that clause.

This led to the printed letter to the Town Clerk of the 21st March, 1887, a copy of which is annexed to this report. The draft of that letter was submitted to the President, and a printed copy was sent to each member of the Council, who was specially asked for his approval. This was followed by a printed copy being sent to each member of the Powysland Club, with a circular asking for the opinion of each, and stating that any suggestions would be gladly received, and that in case of no reply being received, to save trouble, approval would be assumed. Replies were received from a large majority of the Council, approving of the suggestion, and none expressed disapproval. To the circular to the members, whose opinions were sought for the guidance of the Council, numerous approvals were received verbally and by letter; and only two dissented.

With this all but unanimous approval a Conference was held between a Committee of members of the Council of the Powysland Club, and a Committee of the Corporation, and terms were arranged subject to the approval of the Town Council.

After some delay, on the 13th August, 1887, a communication was received from the Town Clerk, stating that the Town Council at their meeting held that day, had directed the Mayor to convene a public meeting to consider the adoption of the Public Libraries Act (which adoption was a necessary preliminary), the Library rate to be limited to $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the pound.

The meeting was accordingly held on the 13th Sept., and afterwards by adjournment, when on the 14th October a poll was taken, and the adoption of the Public Libraries Act was carried by a large majority.

The terms of the arrangement come to were—

1—That the Public Libraries Act should be adopted (which has been done).

2—The Powysland Club, during its continuance, to have (according to the provisions of the Trust Deed) the use of the Museum for their meetings. They also reserve, during the continuance of the Club, the use of their books for circulation amongst their members.

3—The Powysland Club to have the nomination of two or three of its members on the Library Committee of Management (four members of the Club, viz., the Earl of Powis, Mr A. Howell, Dr Barrett, and Mr Morris C. Jones, have been appointed by the Corporation on the Library Committee).

The Council of the Powysland Club, having regard to the uncertainty and want of permanence in private trusts of public institutions such as this, owing to the shortness of human life, consider that the advantage of this Institution being vested in the Corporation, which has perpetual succession, is manifest; and that such an arrangement will afford the permanence which a private trust lacks. It now only remains for the Trustees, with the consent of the Council, to carry out the arrangement agreed upon.

The transfer of the Museum by the Trustees to the Corporation of Welshpool, when carried out, will in no wise interfere with the literary and printing operations of the Club, which will be carried on as heretofore. Nor will the interest of the Powysland Club in the Museum, or the Club's efforts to promote its objects, be in any degree abated. But the change will have the effect, whilst retaining all the advantages of the Museum, of placing it on a permanent basis, and, moreover, of adding to it the inestimable advantage of a Free Public Library—the first in this part of Wales.

Mr P. A. BECK read the treasurer's statement, which showed the income of the year, including a balance

amounted to £292 7s 11d, and there was a balance in hand of £116 3s 11d.

The Noble CHAIRMAN said—The report we have just heard read enumerates the various events of interest in connection with the Club which have taken place during the past year. We have to regret the loss of two members, Mr Barnwell and the Chevalier Lloyd; and we shall have to confirm the action of the Council in filling up their places. Mr Barnwell was a gentleman who had taken a most active part for many years, both in the editing of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, which has been a very important work for elucidating the antiquities of Wales, and the Chevalier Lloyd, as long as his health enabled him to do so, was a most hearty member of the Council. The notice as to Mr Thompson Watkin's contemplated work on Roman Cheshire reminds me that some very interesting Roman remains have during the present autumn been discovered at Chester close to one portion of the walls. With regard to the transfer of this Museum to the Town Council of Welshpool, I am happy that the inhabitants of the town have ratified the action of the Corporation, and that now as soon as the necessary formalities are concluded, this building will be put into the possession of the Council, and under the charge of that body. I hope that will lead to the extension of the Library, which is a very important thing for the town, as it is found in all places where public libraries have been established under the Public Libraries Act, that the rising generation avail themselves heartily of the facilities for reading, thus showing that the education they are now receiving in the schools has been sufficient to create in them a desire to improve and a capacity for study. I hope this town will be no exception to this general rule. These are the principal matters to which I have to direct your attention, and I will now move that the reports be approved and adopted, and that Mr Humphreys-Owen's, and Mr Harrison's appointment as members of the Council be confirmed. (Cheers.)

Mr C. W. WILLIAMS WYNN, in seconding the motion, said he had great pleasure in congratulating the Society upon its respectable and prosperous financial condition. He trusted that the transfer of the Museum to the local body would in no degree diminish the interest and the support the Club had received from those in the immediate neighbourhood. With respect to the latter part of the motion he was sure no one who knew the interest which Mr Humphreys-Owen and Mr Harrison took in all matters connected not only with the antiquarian but with the artistic interests of the county, would be desirous of opposing the motion, but would heartily welcome them as officers of the Club. (Cheers.)

The motion was agreed to.

The Rev. J. E. HILL read the report of the School of Science and Art Committee, which was as follows:—

The attendance of the classes and the fees received or due have been as follows:—

			Day Class.			Evening Class.		
			Attend- ance.		Fees.	Attend- ance.		Fees.
Term ending			£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
"	"	9th Nov., 1886	..	5.	3 7 6	..	13	2 5 6
"	"	1st Feb., 1887	..	14.	9 6 3	..	20	3 10 0
"	"	19th Apr., 1887	..	18.	10 18 9	..	14	2 9 0
"	"	28th June, 1887	..	11.	5 2 6	..	12	2 2 0
"	"	9th Aug., 1887	..	8..	2 18 9	..	8	0 15 9
			£31 13 9			11 2 3		
						31 13 9		
						42 16 0		

(1886.)

Last year's fees amounted to £36 15s 6d, consequently there is an increase of £6 0s 6d in the fees for the present year.

This is satisfactory, particularly when it is remembered that the classes are, under the new arrangement, held only once a week, whereas in 1886 they were held twice a week.

EXAMINATIONS.

On the 29th April and 2nd May, 1887, examinations of the classes were held by the Science and Art Department, when the following offered themselves for examination, including two external pupils:—

Third Grade.—Drawing from the cast stage, 36.

Second Grade.—Free model drawing 6, and freehand drawing 6. No prizes were offered—but the following certificates:—

Fanny Parry (external pupil) for model drawing.

Alfred Jones for freehand drawing.

Results of Works.—13 students submitted 55 works.

The Department did not mention the number of marks they obtain.

The Committee are of opinion that the new arrangement of the classes meeting once a week is working well.

The Committee are not without hopes, that after the recent discussions about technical education, a demand will, before long, arise for the establishment of an agricultural class, which it will be their duty to supply. Preparatory to this step, the Committee offer the suggestion that in the proposed Free Public Library a collection should be formed by donations of scientific works on agriculture.

This would enable young men engaging in farming pursuits to make themselves acquainted with the results of the researches which scientific men—such as naturalists, chemists, geologists, and mechanicians—are constantly contributing to the elucidation of the principles and guidance of the practice of agriculture.

Lord POWIS then gave the Science and Art Department's certificate for Freehand Drawing, second grade, to Alfred Jones; and he mentioned that Fanny Parry was not present. In making the presentation, Lord Powis said the list of honours was not a long one, but he hoped that during the year and under the new system the classes would revive.

The Ven. Archdeacon THOMAS, in proposing a vote of thanks to Lord Powis for presiding, said he thought their President must sometimes wonder whether anything new could be said after so many occasions on which exactly the same vote of thanks had been proposed before. One would also think he must now and then wonder how often it was to be repeated, and how long the Powys-land Club could go on in the thriving and flourishing manner in which it had gone on in the past years. As to their secretary, their chief secretary, they could only imagine him sitting down in despair and tearing his hair, when there was nothing more to be done. (Laughter.) At the same time he very wisely provided against any such contingency, for the proceedings of the Club embraced not only Powys-land, but the Borders; they had time after time found that to be a very elastic expression, so that he thought the terrible contingency he had alluded to was not likely to come to pass in the life time of any of them. But in proposing a vote of thanks to the President, there were two points to which one should refer as marking the last year's presidency. The first was the one already spoken of, the transfer of that Museum to the Town Council of Welshpool. He thought it would mark an epoch in the era of the Council, a start in a new direction, a start which might be productive of very much good, intellectual and otherwise, and he believed that to no slight degree that move on their part was due to the influence which their President had exercised, an influence which was sure to be good for the town and for the young men and young women of the town, and one which redounded with honour to the Powys-land Club, who had come forward and made such a generous present to the town of Welshpool. (Cheers.) It was something that such an event should be associated with the presidency of the Earl of Powis. That was one point. Another point was that during the course of the past year another of their secretaries had conferred

a very great boon upon the literature of North Wales in his edition of "Yorke's Royal Tribes," a work in the original of very great interest and value, but of far greater value in Powys-land owing to the elaborate and valuable notes which Mr Richard Williams had appended to his new edition, and upon which he wished very heartily to congratulate him. (Hear, hear.) It had been a very happy thought that induced him to dedicate this new edition to the Earl of Powis, their President. (Cheers.) He had also to thank the President for drawing his attention to an article in the last number of "The Transactions." The paper was one of very great interest and value; it was an Estimation or estimate of the values of the livings taken in the year 1253. It was earlier by forty years than the Taxatio of Pope Nicholas, of which, so far as St. Asaph Diocese was concerned, alone they knew before. It was known that a Taxatio was taken in 1253, but there were no records that they knew of bearing upon it. But in the last number of the Transactions to which his attention was drawn both by the President and the Secretary, he found that they had a Norwich Taxatio. It had points of very great interest in itself, it was earlier by forty years, and it enumerated the parishes under slightly different names or slightly different characters from what Pope Nicholas's Taxatio did; and whereas one would expect in the earlier one a much more full account of the different parishes, and the different portions of which they knew they were at that time composed, they did not find those, but had to look for them in the Taxatio of 1291. One thing with regard to it which puzzled him was how it was possible that within forty years the value of livings should have increased so very much as those two Taxatios represented it to have done, and on thinking it over it seemed to him the solution was this: that at the earlier period when there were many portions, the respective portions were so small that they did not come within the Taxatio, they were under the rate that was taxable. But a little before the second Taxatio, about seven years before, Archbishop Peckham issued his instructions for the union of those small portions, being in themselves too small to be of much value, and that through their union they produced an amount which came within the taxation. He could only account for it in that way; it might not be the right way, but it was possible. Then again, in that account he saw there was a very slight hit at Meifod. Meifod, according to that article, was knocked off its perch as being the original parish church, the mother church of Guilsfield and Welshpool. He felt bound to admit there was a good deal to be said for that statement, for in the earlier Taxatio the church or ecclesia of Meifod stood at the head of a number of capellæ, but those capellæ did not embrace either Guilsfield or Welshpool—they embraced the churches falling within the lordship of Mechain. Supposing Meifod to have been the mother church of the parishes within that lordship, it was very possible that Welshpool and Guilsfield were chapelries of the old mother church of Llan-drinio. He did not know how much they were to build upon the terminology of that earlier Estimate, because, whereas in that deanery—a deanery which, by the way, bore a name which had unhappily fallen out of use, the deanery of Powys—some eight ecclesiæ were mentioned, with about seventeen capellæ; in the other deaneries of the diocese he thought there was only one capella. They could hardly suppose that to have been the case; it was an idiosyncrasy of those appointed to take the values of the churches rather than a set and fixed rule by which they were to judge of the condition of the churches. In another little article attached to it there was a very ingenious identification of the lost church or capella of

Welshpool, the chapel of St. Llewelyn. Perhaps Mr Morris Jones would point out to them the site of it, for it was, he believed, not very far away from where they stood. The way in which Mr Morris Jones identified it was very ingenious, but he regretted that Mr Jones had appended to it a little bit of etymology in attempting to derive Trallwm from Tre Llewelyn. He thought the less they said about that the better. At the same time he was very glad to be able to call attention to the paper and to propose a vote of thanks to the President. (Cheers.)

The Rev. D. P. LEWIS, in seconding the motion, said the possibility of the Club coming to an end had been spoken of, but he could only say he hoped his lordship would long continue in thoroughly good health, and that the Club might continue to flourish until all the work that could possibly be done in the neighbourhood had been done. (Cheers.)

The motion was agreed to with applause, and the noble President having briefly replied, the proceedings closed.

NOVEMBER 16, 1887.

NOTES.

ST. ALKMOND'S CHURCH, SHREWSBURY: BELL LEGEND.—Phillips's *History and Antiquities of Shrewsbury* contains the following item:—

This yere, 1533, upon twelffe daye in Shrewsbury, the dyvyll appeared in Saint Alkmonds church there, when the priest was at high masse, with great tempeste and darkness, so that as he passyd through the church, he mounted up the steeple in the sayde church, teryng the wires of the seid clocke, and put the print of hys clawes upon the 4th bell, and took one of the pinnacles away with hym; and for the tyme stayed all the bells in the churches, within the seid towne, that they could neither toll nor ring.

It is clear that this is simply the reference of a thunder-storm to diabolical agency. G.H.B.

Cardiff.

BURYING TRANSVERSELY TO THE CHURCH (Oct. 12, 1887)—In Llanelidan Churchyard is another instance of a grave, and the tombstone also, lying north and south, whilst all the other graves lie east and west in the same direction as the church. On this altar-like tomb is a singular epitaph, which has already appeared in *Bye-Gones*, and which is here reproduced:—

Without a name for ever senseless dumb
Dust and ashes nought else within this Tome
Where I was born or bred it matters not
From whom descended or of whom begot
I was but am not ask no more of me
Its all I am and all that you shall be

There is no stop from the beginning to the end. The letters and spelling are modern. The grave lies close to the east window. On enquiry, the parish clerk, who has seen threescore years and ten, and in whose family the clerkship descends from father to son, informed me that this was the grave of a Madam Parry, who lived at Pantyron, and who was an eccentric character, and a very good lady. Having obtained this hint as to the name of the departed, the writer consulted the parish register, and found therein the following entry:—"Susan Parry Widow Buried Ap 3 1801." There is no

place of abode inserted, which was an omission often occurring in these registers, but the monument itself corresponds in every particular with the above date. The parish clerk had no doubts whatever as to the occupant of that nameless grave, for it would seem that he had had the information from his relative Simon Goodman, the then parish clerk of the parish, and one of the trustees of Madam Parry's will, the other trustee being William Davies, Bryn Goleu, the next neighbour to the lady. The parish clerk said that Madam Parry wished to be buried as near as possible to her cousin Humphrey Jones, Y Ddol, who was buried within the church, and, as they could not bury the lady in the church, they buried her outside in the manner already described, and thus they complied with her request as to proximity of burial to her cousin of the Ddol. E.O.

OSWESTRY AND OTHER PLACES IN SHROPSHIRE IN THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD.—In the appendix to the fourth Report of the Royal Commission on Historical MSS., there are many references to Oswestry and other places in Shropshire during the Civil War. I select a few with the hope that they will be of sufficient interest to be reprinted in *Bye-Gones*.

I have taken the following from the report on the papers of the Right Honorable the Earl of Denbigh at Newnham Paddox. Mr R. B. Knowles, the gentleman who examined them, states (p. 255) that the CIVIL WAR LETTERS, in two volumes, numbered upwards of 280. Basil, Earl of Denbigh, was appointed by Lord Essex commander-in-chief within the associated counties of Warwick, Worcester, Stafford, and Shropshire, on the 14th June, 1643 (a). On the 2nd of April, 1645, he laid down his commission in obedience to the Self-Denying Ordinance. Most of the Civil War Letters relate to the period embraced by these dates.

(1) Copy of a letter from Lord Denbigh to Sir Thomas Fairfax, Coventry,—March 1, 1643-4, asking help to enable him to perform his duty towards Shropshire till his own forces are raised, especially as Col. Mitton and the garrison in them are exposed to great hazard from a powerful enemy and the place is necessary to the recovery of a rich and considerable county.

(2) H. Mackworth, Coventry, March 27, 1643. The "bleeding condition" of Shropshire requires help. Its forces are wasted while those of the King increase daily by the addition of the Irish. If Lord Denbigh cannot come to their aid the writer will advise them to retreat to Nantwich or Stafford.

(3) The Committee at Nantwich, April 17, 1644. The enemy make great preparations at Shrewsbury and Chester, resolving to advance speedily against Nantwich or Wem or both. Postscript. "My Lor: wee shall desire yo'r Lor:p would send some force this waie wth all speed in regard wee are verie like to be assaulted by Sundaie next or sooner verie suddenly."

(4) Draught of a letter from Lord Denbigh, Coleshill, May 11, 1644, to the Committee of Nantwich. He is on his march to Stafford in pursuance of the commands of the Committee of both Kingdoms. If the enemy, who is in far greater strength than his own, intercept him he will desire the speedy assistance of the Committee.

(5) Colonel Frazer, 16 (May), 1644. There is want of pro-

visions for both men and horses. The soldiers plunder the country people who are friendly to the Parliament. News from Shrewsbury through one brought in by a scout that the Prince (Rupert) hath drawn most of his power together to fall upon Wem.

(6) Col: Frazer, "Stone this 18th of May att 10 of the clock, with Prince Rupert's army within a mile and a half of Nantwich, supposed to be near 5,000 or 6,000. We desire to know your L'd's pleasure whether we shall endeavour to maintaine this towne, or your L'd:p will appoint a rendezvous where all the horse may bee drawne together."

(7) John Watts, Chircke Castle, May 20, 1644, to Sir Abraham Shipman, imploring "your helpe in accomodating mee with some match."

(8) Robert Hughes, Chester, June 3, 1644, to Sir Abraham Shipman, Knt., Governor of Oswestry. The contents of this letter have no local references, but the address points the direction in which John Watts of Chirk Castle probably sent for the "match" he so urgently needed.

Col. Frazer, Ironbridge, June 6, 1644, offering to march between Worcester and "Easum" (Evesham), "where there is noe other way for his Matie to passe to Prince Rupert but through Worcester and soe to Shrewsbury."

(9) An Order of Parliament, June, 1644, for a thousand pounds and 600 pair of pistols to be provided for Lord Denbigh. Begins "a l're from the Earle of Denbigh from Oswalstree (Oswestry) of June the 24th concerning the taking of the said towne and castle of Oswalstree wth a list of Armes and prisoners, the prisoners that were taken being as many or more then those that took them, the towne and castle." It is ordered that Mr Pierpoint doe p'pare a l're to be sent to the Earle of Denbigh from both howses in acknowledgm't of the great and good services done by him. The faithfull and great services done by Colonel Mitton are likewise to [be] acknowledg[ed] and take[n] notice of in the said l're.

(10) Colonel Mitton, Wem, June 20, 1644, relating his efforts to intercept ammunition which he heard was to be sent from Oswestry to Prince Rupert.

The same—Wem, June 20, 1644, 11 at night. Certain intelligence even now come that there is but 60 foot left in Oswestry. The ammunition is gone past this evening. If Lord Denbigh will be pleased to lend the writer 300 foot and 300 horse he doubts not (by God's leave) but to take the town & hold it and, Wem till P[rin]ce R[upert's] return.

(11) The Committee of Wem, June 20, 1644, asking for horse and foot, as they are resolved to fall upon Oswestry and Either take the magazine (the ammunition of the preceding letter) or else stop it from ever going nearer to the Prince.

(12) Lord Wharton, London, June 25, 1644, congratulating Lord Denbigh on his success at Oswestry.

(13) The Committee at Wem, July 5, 1644, representing that Mr Newport and three other considerable prisoners should be removed "in regard of an especial respect this place bears unto my L'd. Newport and his friends."

(14) Sir George Booth, Wem, July 5, 1644. He fears that the fragments of Prince Rupert's routed army "will molest us in these counties if not prevented," and suggests that Oswestry should be victualled and manned, and that Lord Denbigh should "draw nearer Cheshire in order to prevent the passage of the Lancashire forces to those of Shrewsbury, and check the inroads of Prince Rupert's broken forces."

(15) Francis Newport, Wem, July 5th, 1644, reminding Lord Denbigh of his assurance that Newport should not be removed "from these partes" till it was seen whether some exchange might be found for him.

(a) Whitelocke gives Sep. as the date of this appointment, but the 14th June appears the correct date.

(16) Major Ramsey—Wem, July 13, 1644, reporting the "ill frame" of things since Lord Denbigh's departure in the diminishing of his regiment and want of money and clothing for his men.

(17) The Committee of Oswestry—July 13, 1644, respecting Mr Thomas Hamner, "a very active man against the Parliam't," and who, as they advise, shall be kept prisoner until he either ransom himself or be released by way of exchange.

(18) Col. Mitton—Wem, July 14, 1644. The Committee refuse to set Mr Hamner at liberty for a month to settle his affairs. They are putting their power of placing ministers in churches in execution. Ask for a commission for Mr Robert Powell, who has come with his family into Oswestry, to raise a regiment of horse.

(19) The Committee of Wem, July 15, 1644, deprecating the enlargement of Mr Francis Newport, a man exceedingly potent in the County and very active in raising men and moneys. They request that Lord Denbigh will admit of no exchange for him, but send him to the Parliament to be dealt with, "hee being a Parliam't man," and "soe active ag'st ye Parliam't from the beginninge."

(To be continued.)

PEARMAN.

QUERIES.

PREBEND OF MACHYNLLETH.—I came across a document a little time ago referring to a Prebend of Machynlleth connected with the cathedral of St. Asaph. Can any readers of *Bye-Gones* give any particulars about it? Is it mentioned in any accessible Diocesan History either of St. Asaph or Bangor? Z.

ADWY'R BEDDAU, NEAR CHIRK.—Yorke, in his "Royal Tribes," says that in the action when Henry II. was worsted "many of the English were slain, and buried in Offa's Dyke, below Chirk Castle; and the part so filled up is to be seen, and forms a passage over it, called to this day Adwy'r Beddau, the Pass of the Graves." Is the name familiar to any inhabitants of the district? The passage is rather puzzling to me, for such of Offa's Dyke as I am familiar with is a ridge, not a ditch to be "filled up."

W.O.

THE ONLY SALOPIAN HOUSE.—Charles Lamb, in his essay, "The Praise of Chimney-Sweepers," refers to a Mr Read, who kept open a shop, which he averred was the only one in London, for the vending of a certain "wholesome and pleasant beverage," and describes it as "*The Only Salopian House*." "There is a composition, the ground-work of which I have understood to be the sweet wood 'yclept sassafras. This wood boiled down to a kind of tea, and tempered with an infusion of milk and sugar, hath to some tastes a delicacy beyond the China luxury. I know not how thy palate may relish it; for myself, with every deference to the judicious Mr Read, who hath time out of mind kept open a shop (the only one he avers in London) for the vending of this 'wholesome and pleasant beverage,' on the south side of Fleet Street—as thou approachest Bridge Street—the *only Salopian house*—I have never yet ventured to dip my own particular lip in a basin of his commended ingredients—a cautious premonition to the olfactories constantly whispering to me, that my stomach must infallibly with all due courtesy, decline it. Yet I have seen palates otherwise not uninstructed in dietetical elegancies, sup it up with avidity. . . . Now

albeit Mr Read boasteth, not without reason, that his is the *only Salopian house*; yet be it known to thee, reader—if thou art one who keepest what are called good hours, thou art haply ignorant of the fact—he hath a race of industrious imitators, who from stalls and under open sky dispense the same savoury mess to humbler customers, at that dead time of the dawn, when (as extremes meet) the rake, reeling home from his midnight cups, and the hard-handed artisan leaving his bed to resume the premature labours of the day, jostle, not unfrequently to the manifest disconcerting of the former, for the honours of the pavement. . . . This is *saloop*—the precocious herb-woman's darling—the delight of the early gardener, who transports his smoking cabbages by break of day from Hammersmith to Covent Garden's famed piazzas—the delight, and oh! I fear, too often the envy, of the unpenned sweep." (See *The English Essayists*, Nimmo's Edn., pp. 305-6.) Is anything known of Mr Read; and what was *Saloop*?

CARROG.

REPLIES.

MACHYNLLETH STREETS (Nov. 9, 1887).—Though I cannot suggest a reason for the change in the names of the streets, it may be of interest to those who do not understand the Welsh language to know that the names *Stryt Gwyr Kyfeiliog*, *Stryt Gwyr Gwynedd*, and *Stryt Gwyr Deheubarth*, respectively mean "The Street of the Men of Cyfeiliog" (a district or hundred in the old Principality of Powis), "The Street of the Men of North Wales," and "The Street of the Men of South Wales."

BONWM.

CURIOUS SUPERSTITIONS ABOUT THE RIVER DEE (Nov. 9, 1887).—Thomas Fulier (born 1608: died 1661) in "The Holy and Profane State," in discoursing on "Company," refers to the tradition with reference to the Dee passing through Bala Lake without mingling with its waters, in the following quaint manner:—"4. *If thou beest cast into bad company, like Hercules, thou must sleep with thy club in thine hand, and stand on thy guard.* I mean, if against thy will the tempest of an unexpected occasion drives thee amongst such rocks; then be thou like the river Dee, in Merionethshire, in Wales,* which running through Pimblemere, remains entire, and mingles not her streams with the waters of the lake. Though with them, be not of them; keep civil communion with them, but separate from their sins, &c."—(See *The English Essayists*, Nimmo's Edn., p. 51.)

GLAN ALWEN.

CURRENT NOTES.

Great disappointment is felt in the neighbourhood of Corwen at the fact that Caer Drewyn, the ancient fortress which was occupied by Owen Glyndwr, and previously in the twelfth century by Owen Gwynedd, has recently been closed to the public. It was one of the chief points of interest to antiquaries in the whole district, and it is also the place where the best view of the Vale of Edeyrnion can be had.

CURIOUS CORPORATION CUSTOMS.—We extract the following from a paper in *Cassell's Family Magazine* for November:—At Congleton, in Cheshire, the burgesses appear to

* Cambd. Brit. in Merioneth.

have had a remarkable predilection for bear-baiting. In the reign of James I. their menagerie contained at least one bear, and a bear-ward was appointed by the Corporation for its custody, and it it said, writes Mr Llewellyn Jewitt, in the *Journal of the British Archaeological Association* (1850, p. 255), that the bear having died, the Corporation gave orders to sell their Bible in the year 1661, in order to purchase another, which was done, and the town was no longer without a bear. How they replaced the Bible is not told.—The borough of Carnarvon turned its mace into a drinking-cup, which on state occasions, such as Royal birth-days, and the inauguration of the mayor or bailiff, was handed round to the assembled court.

THE VICARAGE OF WELSHPOOL.—The Rev. Grimaldi Davis has been offered the living at Welshpool, and has accepted the appointment. The reverend gentleman, who is one of the most vigorous preachers in North Wales, was educated at Friars School, Bangor, under the Rev. D. Lewis Lloyd, now head master of Brecon. He was an open scholar of Jesus College, Oxford; took his first-class in moderations 1876, his B.A. degree in 1878, and M.A. in 1881, was ordained deacon and priest by the Bishop of Bangor. His first curacy was at Glanogwen, Bangor, where he remained nearly two years; his second curacy was at Conway, where he remained nearly five years. From Conway the reverend gentleman went to Corwen in January, 1885. He will leave Corwen amid the universal regret and best wishes of both Churchmen and Nonconformists. The living of Welshpool is in the gift of the Bishop of St. Asaph, and is of the net annual value of £320, with house and six acres of glebe.

OSWESTRY FARMERS AND OSWESTRY CORN MARKET, LONG AGO.—In this town—before the Powis Hall was built—corn was sold by “bulk,” and not by “sample,” as now, small groups of sacks were to be seen scattered about the Bailey Head, and at each of the surrounding public-houses there was a “measuring room” kept for the convenience of customers. The one we generally used was at the Unicorn, in a room since used as a “bar” and “parlour,” in those days many townspeople bought a bag of wheat and sent it to the mills for economy’s sake. To the Unicorn, when we had sold a sack, it was carried, and carefully measured into the purchaser’s bag, and great was the scandal if it was not good “mezzur.” In settling, we always had a “glass” together “for the good of the house,” that is, to compensate the landlord for the use of the room, and I am afraid some of us got “considerable tight,” as we returned “in ballast,” with the empty sacks. At that time a farmer was considered fortunate if he had a horse or “tit,” as it was sometimes called, that would “carry beer,” and knew the road home, when his master “didn’t,” and as when he hadn’t the missus “up behind,” he mostly took a bag of wheat, or oats, under him, to pay expenses, it was of no use to have a “spindle-shanked” one. So the “Ceffyl” most in request was the “light cart horse;” indeed the “race horse” of that time was remarkably “cartish” in his “proportions,” as any one may see by looking at the old prints. The “carriage” of the larger farmers was then represented by what was called a “taxed cart,” but where the roads were too bad for a vehicle of any kind, the “missus” had to ride on a leather cushion, or “pillion,” which was strapped behind the saddle; her heels hung over the horse’s flank, and up and down hill, and in the difficult parts of the road, she had to “hold on,” by placing her fair arms around her lord’s waist, if he happened to have any, which was not always the case. Where the “groceries” were carried, I cannot say, but as they were then exceedingly dear, being three or four times their present prices, it is probable they were

contained in a very small parcel, which could easily be stowed in the “maister’s” coat pockets. A good stiff nag was required for this kind of work, long and strong in the back and legs; and mounted on such an one, nearly every Wednesday, was to be seen old Roberts of — in a long drab “top coat,” with a very stiff collar, kerseymere breeches and gaiters, and a battered beaver “chimley pot” hat. As he returned one market day, in a state of semi-somnolency, with a goodly portion of the proceeds of his marketings in his “inward parts,” his horse strayed into our “barn field,” the gate of which had accidentally been left open. After wandering around several times without finding the means of egress, viz., the gate, or seeming to get any nearer home, he struck into a wild gallop, pulling up every now and then, and shouting at the top of his voice “In the name of the L—d where am I got to, oo, oo!” then striking spurs into the horse for a fresh revolution of the field. Old L— lived near the last named. He was used to ride to market on a “bob tailed nag,” that is, with no hair on his strumple. The old man himself had only one arm and a short stump that jerked up and down as he rode along—

Thus Jacky and Dobbin went jogging and bobbin’,
The stump and the strumple kept jogging in tune.

One day, in returning, when the “maut” was much “aboon the meal,” the old horse turned suddenly to the hedge, and, in pulling his head down to graze, pulled poor old L— overboard into a wet ditch. Now Jacky was noted for “talking to himself,” by the way, “because he liked to converse with a man of sound understanding,” and as he was totally incapable of rising, he was heard to bewail his misfortune, somewhat in this fashion, with a bit of a sniffle between the sentences (sniff, sniff), “H—l of a mess” (sniff), “poor owd L— in the ditch” (double sniff), “nobody coming to help him” (sniff), “H—l of a mess,” &c., &c.

So Dobbin left Jacky, and down on his back he
Slept soundly till morn by the light of the moon.

J. J.

THE NORTH TRANSEPT OF OSWESTRY CHURCH.

In October, 1874, the parish church of Oswestry was re-opened after undergoing a restoration, the beauty and thoroughness of which is a matter of pride to all who were associated with the work. But imposing as the interior of the building is, it lacked a north transept to give it the orthodox perfection of design. A north transept has now been added, the cost being defrayed out of a legacy bequeathed by Mr William Price, formerly of Oswestry, and the transept was consecrated by the Bishop of St. Asaph, on Sunday. It will be remembered that at the point at which the north transept joins the outside of the aisle there was formerly a flank wall, containing a large window. This wall has now been carried out for a distance of 26 feet, to form the transept; the side walls are new, and each contains a new three light window, which is filled with cathedral glass, taken from the large window, the large window being filled with stained glass. The work has been carried out uniformly with the general restoration of the church; the transept, which contains six rows of seats, and provides accommodation for seventy-two persons, is in accordance with plans prepared by Mr A. E. Street, son of the architect of the church restoration. The contractor was Mr W. H. Thomas, of Salop-road, Oswestry, and the heating coil was provided by Coopers of Liverpool. A further legacy was left to the churchwardens by Mrs Robinson, a sister of Mr Price’s, for filling in the window with stained glass, and this work,

which cost about £270, was entrusted to Messrs Clayton and Bell, whose engagements at Truro Cathedral prevented them from carrying out this work in time for the opening of the transept in October, when the anniversary of St. Oswald's Church was celebrated. The tracery of the window contains a representation of the adoration of the Lamb by the apostles, and the lower part of the window is divided into five lights. The centre light contains a representation of the adoration of the Infant Saviour, and underneath the inscription "A light to lighten the Gentiles." The other lights each contain two subjects: one represents Mary breaking the box of ointment over the feet of our Saviour, another represents Melchisedek blessing Abraham, another, the widow casting her mite into the treasury, and the other the anointing of David, and the inscription "Blessed be the Lord thy God which delighteth in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel." The window is dedicated "To the glory of God and in memory of Marianne Robinson, died January 8, 1875."

The Building Committee consisted of the Vicar and Churchwardens (Messrs. Griffith Whitfield, John Evans, Edward Ellis Jones, and John Jones), Mr Owen G. Jones, Mr W. Fletcher Rogers, Mr F. G. Buller Swete, Mr E. Shaw, Mr Edward Williams, Colonel Lloyd of Aston, and Mr P. H. Jones. The contract for the transept amounted to something over £500. It may be mentioned that in the progress of the work the spring of an arch taking the same direction as the new transept was discovered.

The Late Idris Vychan.

By the death of Mr John Jones, better known as Idris Vychan, Wales has lost one of her celebrated penillion singers, and one well versed in Welsh literature. He was born at Dolgelley in 1825, and his family on his mother's side were all noted for their skill in singing, especially with the harp. He was nearly related to Mr Ellis Roberts, harpist to the Prince of Wales. At Chester Eisteddfod in 1886, Idris Vychan received the first prize for a history of Dolgelley. He also wrote a "History of the derivation and meaning of the houses, rivers, and places in and around Dolgelley." Last year, before the Welsh National Society of Manchester, Idris Vychan read "A critical study of the works of the Poet Dafydd Iwanawr." In 1851 he went to London, but only resided there a short time, and went to Manchester in 1857, where he remained since. He had the honour of singing penillion at the recent Eisteddfod in London before the Prince of Wales and the Royal children. His last public appearance was at the Eisteddfod at Llandudno, and it is to be feared that the excitement on this occasion hastened the paralytic attack which proved fatal on Thursday, Nov. 3. He died at his residence, 14, Park Grove, Greenheys, where he was attended by Dr. Mallett and also by Sir William Roberts,

NOVEMBER 23, 1887.

NOTES.

SHROPSHIRE WORDS.—*Thatch*. I have noticed that Oswestry children invariably call the roof of a house or any other building the *thatch*, although there is not a single thatched house in the town, as far as I know. This is a curious survival of a word after the discontinuance of the use of the material of which it was properly descriptive; and also of the transfer of the word, together with the idea which it conveyed, to other materials, such as slates or tiles.

CARROG.

NEWTOWN HALL ESTATE.—A RENT ROLL FOR THE YEAR ENDING LADY DAY, 1772.—The following persons, many of whose surnames will be recognized, and some of whose descendants probably live in or about Newtown now, paid the sums set opposite to their names on the 25th June following, to Mr Broutoun, a Receiver appointed by the Court of Chancery, for their half-year's rents due at Lady Day preceding. Independently of any genealogical interest the comparison between the rents then paid and now will be worth noting. Several of the places and persons I identify by foot notes. I copied the foregoing some years ago from the Chancery proceedings, and forget now whether the names of all the premises occupied were inserted, but believe they were not.

Tenants.	Amounts.	Places.
	£ s. d.	
John Jones	3 17 6	
Richard Williams	80 0 0	Brynderwyn, I conjecture.
Andrew Poole (1)	5 0 0	
Pryce Buckley (2)	10 0 0	
Valentine Owen	6 15 0	Lady Well Meadow and Pound Close.
William Davies	6 0	
Edward Evans	10 10 0	Abermule Inn and lands.
Thomas Roberts	21 0 0	Middle Brimmon.
Edward Pryce	6 5 0	Lower Brimmon.
Robert Brown	7 10 0	
Morgan Evans	1 0 0	
Richard Evans	5 0 0	Cae Darbies.
Edward Goodwyn	83 10 0	Court Farm (Mr Miller's).
Edward Bedward	15 0 0	
James Moor	20 0 0	
Lewis Williams (3)	11 0 6	A house, garden, and 6 pieces of land called The Vrons. Tynygreen.
David James	23 5 0	
Thomas Owen	8 5 0	
Richard Trow	22 10 0	
Stephen Stephens	9 0 0	{ Cae Pompren. { Cae Delyn.
Roger Evans	15 0 0	Upper Brimmon.
Onslow Barrett	6 0 0	
John Green (4)	46 7 0	Coedyfrydd and Bron-y-Bakers.
Abraham Stanley	21 0 0	A barn and 7 pieces of land.
Thomas Jennings	2 6	Chief Rent.
David Hall	5 0	Chief Rent.
Evan Vaughan	4 0	Chief Rent.
R. Hamer (5), and R. Jones (6)	14 0 0	
Abraham Stanley	22 10 0	Dolrhiw Meadows.
Joseph Turner	10 1	(Ten quarters.)
Rev. W. Humphreys ..	9 0	Chief Rent.
John Thomas	9 0	Late Billington.
Mary Bird	14 0	(Now Robert Bird.)
Samuel Dimbelow (7) ..	1 0	Four years' rent, lease.

These accounts continue for about ten years, and the tenants' names changed considerably during that period.

PEARMAIN.

(1) He was a surgeon practising at Newtown and erected "Savern Side." The ground attached to that residence is probably the premises for which he paid the rent.

(2) Son of Richard Buckley of Glanhafren, and Mary his wife. Baptized 13th April, 1732, at Bettws. He practised as a solicitor at Newtown.

(3) The house was the "Elephant."

(4) Ancestor of the late George Green, flannel merchant, of an Aberhafesp family.

(5) Ancestor of the Misses Hamer, formerly of Glandulas.

(6) Of Greenwich, also of Black Hall, Kerry, founder I think (I am writing from memory) of Kerry School.

(7) A cottage on the Bank adjacent to Mrs Pilot's shop. I imagine some portion of the cottage is yet standing. This and the other chief rents were very ancient, being mentioned as early as 1400—1500.

A RAINBOW SUPERSTITION.—Proceeding up the Ceiriog Valley one day recently, I noticed a beautiful rainbow; and pointing to it with my hand I said to my little girl, who was with me in the trap, "Look at that rainbow," whereupon, hastily putting my arm down, she said, "Oh, don't point at the rainbow, it is unlucky; it will be sure to rain or something, if you do." I had never heard of the superstition before, and she must have heard of it either at Oswestry or in the neighbourhood.

BONWM,

SHROPSHIRE A PART OF WALES?—Pegge, in his "Anonymiana" (1809) p. 79, quotes from William Baldwyn's "Mirrour for Magistrates," p. 406, the line

Now welcome out of Wales,

adding in explanation, "Shropshire was reckoned a part of Wales very commonly; see Shrewsbury in English history; and Woodville came now from Ludlow. See 'Mirrour,' p. 405. Now, the particle, abounds here." Cardiff. G.H.B.

AN OLD LETTER.—The following letter was found amongst some old papers some years since, with the following address:—"Miss Maurice, Revd. Mr. Richd. Maurice, Oswestry, Shropshire, single sheet." Mr Maurice resided at Brynwgwaliau, Llangedwyn, but died in Oswestry in 1802. He was P.C. of Trevor, Vicar of Llangedwyn and Llansilin, and constructed several bridges in Denbighshire—Llangedwyn, Penybont, and others.

LLYWARCH HEN.

Llwyn Dedwydd.

I have received your Letter, my Dear Maurice, and should have answered sooner, but being unable to find the verses you desired me to send you, delayed writing till I could meet with them, which I wish may answer your expectation. I own to you they please me, but as I am no judge of Poetry, this is no proof of their merit. You I know are able to decide upon their beauties, and I hope will give me your real sentiments. I fancy they are by no means new, for they were brought from a Mr Tires's some years ago, therefore you may very likely have seen them before. I am concerned to hear that Mr Maurice has been unwell, and hope before this every trace of indisposition has vanished. I am sorry I ever proposed my Father seeing your Letters, as I am fearful his doing so will cause you to write in a formal manner, and to deprive me of those lively sallies which I so much admire; for believe me I should be somewhat mortified to receive such letters from you as I should expect from one of our nursery Teachers, and beg you will not subject me to this mortification, as you may rest assured my Father in future shall not see your letters. I will now write the verses, and if there is room, will add a few lines at the conclusion.

LINES ON THE HERMIT'S TOMB IN M. BOCHNET'S GROVE.

Happy the man, and he alone appears
Who having once unmov'd by hopes or fears
Survey'd the Sun, Earth, Ocean, Clouds, and flame;
Well satisfy'd returns from whence he came.

Is life a Hundred years or e'er so few?

'Tis repetition all, and nothing new.

A Fair where Thousands meet, but none can stay;
An Inn where Travellers bait, then post away.

A sea where man perpetually is tost;

Now plung'd in business, now in trifles lost;

Who leaves it first, the peaceful part first gain,
Hold then no further launch into the main.

Contract your sails; life nothing can bestow
By long continuance, but continued woe!
The wretched privilege, daily to deplore
The funerals of our friends, who go before!

Diseases, pains, anxieties, and cares,
And age surrounded with a Thousand snares;
Too oft the unthinking part of human kind,
Punctual in folly, or in vice we find.

When pleasure calls or fancy leads the way,
The giddiest knots and keeps th' appointed day!
While every trifer cries—"since life's a breath"
To-morrow nothing shall prevent—But Death.

Why must the tongue alone, that word impart!
Why comes it not ye thoughtless from your heart?
Why against every other debt prepare,
And nature's still more certain debt forbear?

Death is the certain end of all who live!
Health may prolong, but can't the debt forgive!
Then why procrastinate this wholsom heur,
When the next moment is beyond our power!

Millions have lived upon to-morrow's name,
And dying found to-morrow never came.
Enter the gate—unless your pausing mind
Unwilling leaves the glittering world behind,
These scenes momentary heaven can show
For pure devotion all's in heaven we know.

I am afraid you will discover a good many faults in these verses, but as some part of the tomb on which they were was a good deal decayed hope you will excuse them.

I suppose you have before this heard that our amiable King was given over by his Physicians on Friday his complaint is thought a dropsy in his Chest. The Archbishop of Canterbury and his Ministers were sent for at Ten o'clock at night to attend him by his own desire. To-morrow very likely we may hear how he is and I will keep this letter open that I may inform you of the last account I hear. Mrs Arnold and my Father unite in compliments to you. I hope you do not forget to present mine to Mr and Mrs Maurice if you think they would accept them.

Sunday night, 9 o'clock.

I could gain no certain intelligence concerning the King till to day and am happy to inform you he is now so much better as to be thought no longer in immediate danger. I believe this information may be depended on as it came from one of the Faculty who attends him. I hope your next will be a long sheet of Paper entirely filled, for nothing gives me greater pleasure than the perusal of your letters when they inform me you are well and happy. I have not been in London lately but shall go there in six or seven weeks time, and shall be happy to execute any commission you will intrust me with. One of my brother's children are ill and I am obliged to conclude that I may have time to write after it: Write to me soon my Dear Maurice and believe me your Affectionate Friend.

ELEANOR LEONORA M—

Pray do not let Mr Maurice or any one else see this.
Harrow, Nov. 12, 1788.

QUERIES.

PRINCESS VICTORIA AT WELSHPOOL.—Can any of your readers give the exact date of the Princess Victoria's visit to Welshpool in August, 1832? She arrived, I believe, on a Thursday, and left the next day.

CEDEWAIN.

WELSH PEDIGREES.—It is generally known there is a large collection of manuscripts in the British Museum, consisting of Welsh pedigrees. They seem for the most part to have been written during the period between 1550—1650. The compilers of these pedigrees

commence, many, if not most of them, with names of persons who, assuming an average of thirty years for a generation, must have lived centuries before the earlier of the two dates mentioned above. Where did the compilers get these early generations from? Presumably from other older manuscripts. Can any one acquainted with the subject say where any of these earlier writings are preserved? Z.

REPLIES.

ADWY'R BEDDAU (Nov. 16, 1887.)—Although I do not know the exact spot where Adwy'r Beddau is situated in Offa's Dyke below Chirk Castle, I am not puzzled like your correspondent "W.O." to account for the possibility of burying a large number of the English slain in the Dyke as recorded in Yorke's "Royal Tribes," for Offa's Dyke was defended on the Welsh side by a wide ditch several yards deep; and if "W.O." would take a walk some day along the Dyke from the Oswestry Racecourse to the river Ceiriog, he would find that in many places the ditch is well preserved to this day, and it would be no difficult matter even now to bury any number of dead soldiers in it, and cover them over with the earth which has been excavated from the ditch and thrown up on the English side. CROGEN IDDON.

CURRENT NOTES.

A white pheasant has been shot by Mr David Gillart, Machynlleth, at Caethle, near Towyn.

During some excavations in the Dean's fields at the back of the North Walls, Chester, with the view of laying bare the wall for inspection by the British Archaeological Society, a number of interesting Roman sepulchral and other sculptured stones were brought to light.

It is stated that the delay of the Judicial Committee of the House of Lords in delivering judgment in the appeal from the Court of Appeal relative to the disqualification of the late Mr Meshach Roberts, as a retiring alderman, to contest a ward for which he was returned by a majority of 80 votes over Mr John Pritchard, the present Mayor of Bangor, is owing to the law lords being equally divided, and that the case will have to be re-argued before an augmented court.

The list of gentlemen recently called to the Bar by the Middle Temple is headed by a young Anglesey Welshman, Mr Ellis Jones Griffith of Tycoch, Brynsiencyn. Mr Griffith, who is a B.A. of the London University and an M.A. and LL.B. of the Cambridge University, has won the 50 guineas Middle Temple International Law Scholarship, and the 100 guineas Scholarship in Roman Law and Jurisprudence, a double distinction which will not fail to greatly advance his position in the legal world. Some time ago Mr Griffith was mentioned as a likely candidate for more than one Welsh constituency.

The literary event of the year is the publication of "Darwin's Life and Letters" by his son, Mr Francis Darwin. The work contains a short autobiography, which to most people will be the most interesting portion of this memorial of the greatest of Salopians. Neither the autobiography, nor the Letters, with his son's additions, can be said to cast much fresh light on Darwin's character, but they confirm the general opinion of his singular modesty and nobility of soul, and they give us fresh proof of

the patience of genius which, as the *Times* says, raised him "immeasurably above all his fellows." In the closing words of his autobiography he writes—"As for myself, I believe that I have acted rightly in 'steadily following and devoting my life to science. I feel no remorse from having committed any great sin, but have often and often regretted that I have 'not done more direct good to my fellow creatures.'"

AN OLD FASHIONED COAL CARRIAGE.—In the "days gone by," before the advent of Railways, the "fuel depot" of our village blacksmith, with others of his profession, was annually replenished at a slack time, between the hay and corn harvests, by what was called a "coal carriage," that is, his customers, the larger farmers, would each lend two teams of three or four horses and a waggon, the smaller farmers finding one team, or all the strength of the establishment, for a visit in force to the Ruabon coal pits, where there was a keen competition for his custom. They mostly started over-night, or in the "small hours" of the morning, returning the following afternoon, in a long string, the horses bedizened with flowers—which, we boys were used to take to meet them, the brass ornaments upon the harness glittering in the sun, whilst some of the waggoners had a decidedly dull appearance, and would shamelessly confess,—nay even boast that they were "glorious drunk." Sometimes accidents would happen, through the teams' attempting to pass each other on the road—especially at Chirk Bank, down which they would come at a trot, and I remember a smith, named Jones, of the Dobbin, near Wootton, being killed at his own "carriage," and one of the waggoners nearly frightened to death. I can close my eyes and see him now with the "death damp" on his brow as he lay in a cow-house at a place called the Devil's Elbow. After the horses had been taken home, the waggoners returned to the smithy, to join "mine host,"—supported by a few of the farmers, who were not too proud to patronize him,—at an afternoon supper, the pièce de résistance of which consisted of a steaming hot "mutton pie," of large dimensions. When the cloth was removed, and pipes and ale brought on the table, "Old Vulcan" would be called on for a song, and, enveloped in a cloud of tobacco smoke, he would carol forth his favourite,

In the downhill of life, when I find I'm declining.

His tune was a continuous "shake," or as somebody said, "all demi-semi-quavers," and the chorus of "Tomorrow" would make the ceiling shake. This was followed by loud rapping of the table, and "Well done, Maister." "Bless thee, lads," he'd say, "It is nothing to what I could do when I was young." One of the farmers would then give "Begone dull care," or "Drown it in the bowl," or perhaps the Scotch bailiff would get on his pins and "wake the echoes" with "Get up and bar the door, O!" And when the quality had contributed their share to the entertainment, the driver of the best "chem" would be called upon for a "ploughman's ditty." This was mostly a melancholy wail, in the minor key, such as "Lord Bateman was a noble lord," or "Shame o' the farmers." When the steam was "well up" one of the waggoners would fling himself into the middle of the kitchen, and commence to "step," or dance, which generally ended in his falling on the fire, or "disestablishing" the clock, whilst those who still "sat at the ale" would quietly roll under the table, and "sleep it off," and, although heads may have ached in the morning,

A carriage-supper oft would cheer
The poor man's heart through half the year.

J.J.

The Late Rhys Buckley-Williams, Esq., of Pennant.

We regret to record the death, in his 34th year, of Mr Rhys Buckley-Williams, of Pennant, Garthmyl, near Welshpool. Mr Williams was the fourth and youngest son of the late Mr John Buckley-Williams, of Glyncogan, Manafon. Mr Williams had been ill for a long time, but it was not until about 3 o'clock on Monday morning that the end came. He succeeded to the Pennant estate in September 1883, on the death of his elder brother, Mr John Buckley-Williams. In 1885 he married the eldest daughter of Mrs Humphreys, of Garthmyl Hall, but leaves no children. He was for some years engaged in coffee planting in Ceylon. Mr Williams was a magistrate for the county of Montgomery, and was well-known and much liked throughout the neighbourhood. He is succeeded in the Pennant estate by his sister, Mrs P. Lewis Andrew, of Rock Ferry, Birkenhead.

The Late R. S. Perrott, Esq., of Bronhyddon.

Many of our readers will learn with regret and some surprise of the death of Robert Simcocks Perrott, Esq., of Bronhyddon, Llansantffraid, which occurred after a brief and sudden illness on Wednesday. Mr Perrott left home on Wednesday, Nov. 9, in order to pay a visit to his brother-in-law, at Ymwlch, near Criccieth. When he left home he was apparently in his usually good health, but he was seized with illness shortly after his arrival at Ymwlch. On the Monday he became unconscious and succumbed on Wednesday about noon. Mr Perrott was eldest son of the late Robert Perrott, Esq., of Prynhyddon, who died in 1843, by Magdalene, daughter of the late Thomas Evans, Esq., of Glanbrogan. Born in 1812, he married in 1849, Elizabeth Ann, daughter of the late Rev. Guffreth Owen, of Ymwlch, Carnarvonshire. As a magistrate for Montgomeryshire he took an active part in the administration of justice, and was Chairman of the Llansantffraid Bench of magistrates. He served the office of High Sheriff in 1865. He leaves a widow, five sons and three daughters, of whom Mr Robert Owen Perrott is the eldest.

The remains were removed from Ymwlch to Bronhyddon on Saturday, and on Monday they were interred in the family vault in Llansantffraid churchyard.

The late Mrs. Fryer of Lodge Park.

Mrs Fryer, of Lodge Park, Glandovey, died on Thursday. Mrs Fryer, who was about 73 years of age, was the second daughter of Major Walter Rice, of Llwynbrin, Carmarthenshire. The deceased lady married, first, Mr Pryse Pryse, afterwards Mr Pryse Loveden, of Gogerddan, M.P. for the Cardigan Boroughs for several years, and died in 1855, and had issue Pryse Pryse, now Sir Pryse Pryse, of Gogerddan; Margaret Pryse, born at Lodge Park, and married in 1869 Mr Thomas Holford, of Bitteswell, county Leicester; and Caroline Agnes Loveden, born at Gogerddan, recently married to Viscount Parker. Some time after the death of Mr Pryse Loveden, the deceased lady married Mr Henry Charles Fryer, of South Lytchett, Dorset, a Justice of the Peace for the county of Cardigan, and chairman for many years of the Aberystwyth Board of Guardians. Gogerddan has for very many years been connected with the Liberal interest of Aberystwyth and of Cardiganshire generally. In 1553 John ap Rhys was returned to Parliament for the county of Cardigan, and in 1653 Sir Richard Pryse,

of the same place, was returned to the House of Commons when Cromwell was Lord Protector, Cardiganshire, which was strongly in favour of Cromwell, then returning two out of the seven members for all Wales. Mrs Fryer took a great interest in politics, and threw what influence she possessed on the side of the Liberal party. She also took a deep interest in the social improvement of the people living in her neighbourhood, and was particularly kind to the poor, by whom her loss will be greatly felt.

SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this Society was held in the Shire Hall, Shrewsbury, on Thursday afternoon. Among those present were the Rev. T. Auden, Vicar of St. Julian's (who was voted to the chair), Mr W. Phillips, Mr Adnitt, Mr J. R. Humphreys, the Rev. Dr. Cranage, Mr Ralph, Mr R. Taylor, Mr T. Southam, Mr E. M. Harding, the Rev. Canon Allen, Mr Clement Southam, Mr Sandford Corser, Mr Goyne, honorary secretary, &c.

The CHAIRMAN said that a telegram had been received from Mr Jasper More, expressing his regret that he was prevented from attending the meeting, as he hoped to have done.

The HON. SECRETARY then read the notice convening the meeting, and the annual report and statement of accounts. The report was as follows:—

The Council of the Archaeological and Natural History Society beg to annex their annual statement of accounts and list of members. They regret that they have not been able to diminish the debt owing by the Society to any considerable extent. Two accounts, amounting to £14 8s 3d, have been sent in during the year connected with the Museum. These have been paid, and the Council believe that every charge in connection with the Museum has now been defrayed. They are glad to learn from the Free Library Committee that in the Free Library building the Museum forms a special attraction to visitors to the town, and that the attendance during the year has been very large. A special and most valuable gift of original drawings of Welsh antiquities, splendidly bound in seven large volumes, has been made to the Society during the past year by the late Rev. E. L. Barnwell. This donation has been placed by the Council in the Free Reference Library, and will form a valuable work of reference to students in Welsh and Border Counties Antiquities. The Council thank the writers of papers in the last volume of the Society's Transactions for the valuable contributions, and earnestly ask other members to contribute articles upon Shropshire (especially parish histories) for future volumes of the Transactions. The Council have decided to offer the few remaining complete sets of the Society's Transactions to new members at a large reduction in price in the hope that by this means the Society will gain a fresh influx of new members to fill up the losses caused by deaths, removals, &c. After these copies are disposed of, complete sets of the Transactions will be difficult to procure except at considerably augmented prices.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought he really ought to apologise for occupying the chair that day. He could have wished that some one of much greater importance were filling that post. He had done so, however, at the request of the Council, and he could only think of one reason why he might be able to fill that position with any measure of success, namely, that as a working member of the Council he knew something of the operations of the Society, perhaps more so than others who held higher official positions in it. He might, therefore, not spend a few minutes amiss in saying something about archæology and the working of the Society. He did think they were very right in cultivating archæology. He need not say that to them, but he did not think that that science always had from the outside world the amount of support it should receive. Archæology claimed attention from the

act that it was at once one of the very oldest and one of the very newest of sciences. It was as old as the creation of man as to the subject it dealt with, and at the same time it was very young. It was not a little remarkable that, with the slight exception he believed of the Society of Antiquaries, which had had a very languishing existence from the sixteenth century downwards, not one of the English antiquarian societies dated further back than the middle portion of the present century. It was curious how entirely the study of antiquities was ignored during that, in some respects, very important period in English history, the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. He looked for instance the other day through an index of the *Spectator*, and was unable to find throughout the whole of that publication any single allusion to anything like antiquarian pursuits, or any interest shown in antiquities. If they came down to the eighteenth century some of them would remember how Cowper in one of his poems spoke of

Letting down buckets into empty wells,
And growing old in drawing nothing up.

Those words were used in allusion to scientific pursuits, to such subjects as that Society was devoted to the investigation of. They might also remember an amusing poem of Burns's, on "The Late Captain Grise's Peregrinations through Scotland, collecting the antiquities of that Kingdom." It was in that poem that the well-known lines occurred:—

A chiel's amang you takin notes,
And faith he'll prent it.

The poet speaks of the wonderful collection the old gentleman had got together, including "a broomstick of the Witch of Endor," old armour, which would supply the people of the Lothians with nails for a whole twelve months, and a number of "porritch pots, and auld saut buckets." The only praise he gave to the antiquary was that occasionally under the influence of good old port he melted and became a very genial fellow. He (the Chairman) thought it was worth while to notice the way in which it was reserved for the nineteenth century, the age of telegraphs, the age of express trains, the age of bustle, the age with a tendency to go ahead in every direction, to push forward into and almost to discount the future—that it was reserved for that age as well to teach true reverence and regard for the things of the past. It was when they came to history that they saw the true value of archaeology. It was impossible, he thought, to be a true historian or to take a really intelligent interest in history without some archaeological feeling. It was his happiness last year to spend some time in Normandy. Now he had often read in his youth about the circumstances of the birth of William the Conqueror, by Arlette, a maiden of Falaise. Among the places he visited in Normandy was Falaise, where stood the grand old keep, firm as ever, and there stood the window from which Robert le Diable looked down on the fountain, still in existence, where the women of the place still wash their clothes, just as Arlette was washing clothes there when the Prince first saw her and fell in love with her. He only mentioned this circumstance because it was then, and not till then, when he studied the matter from an archaeological standpoint, that he was able to realize the influences which had surrounded William the Conqueror as a child, the circumstances and character of his father and mother, and all that went to make him the man he was, and had so deep and enduring an effect upon the history of England. He need say nothing about archaeology in regard to the interpretation of the Bible. They knew the importance of the discoveries which had been

made in Egypt and Palestine, and which threw a flood of light upon Biblical research. But he should like to come a little nearer home. In their annual excursion during the past summer they visited Ellesmere, and there they saw something which more than interested them, an historic canoe which had been found in an excavation near one of the meres. It gave them very much to think about, that canoe in which our forefathers of remote ages paddled about in the meres and marshes of the neighbourhood. The year before they went to Uriconium, and studied the remains of Roman civilization which they had unearthed at Wroxeter. Upon the same occasion they went to Wenlock, and studied the remains of a later period, the middle ages, with their wonderful monastic institutions, which in their day served a great purpose, though they were quite unsuited to modern times. It seemed to him to be impossible not to recognize the benefit derived from archaeology as regarded mental cultivation, but more than that it deserved to be studied, because of its great practical utility. This was very manifest in the matter of church restoration. It had fallen to his lot to assist in the restoration of two churches. He believed he did the second better than the first, and if—which Heaven forbid—he ever had to restore another, he thought he should do it better still, because he should do it with more strict observance of the true principles of archaeology, and the conservation and preservation of everything of interest as regards old times. He should like to say a word in reference to the town of Shrewsbury. The attractions of Shrewsbury would always centre to a very great extent in the old houses there. By caring for the innumerable relics of olden times which existed in Shrewsbury they would be really benefiting the town in a very material way. The flood of tourists going westward to Wales and returning was increasing every year, and it became those of them who resided in Shrewsbury, as practical men, to look at their town from an archaeological standpoint, if they wanted the tourists who were passing through to care to remain there a little while for the inspection of the relics they possessed. There was a story told of a farmer who lived near the Roman wall which ran across the North of England. A nobleman who owned property there proposed to erect a farm house and buildings, and got stone at great trouble and expense from a considerable distance. The farmer could not imagine why his lordship should spend so much money when there were stones close at hand which might be had for the getting. The farmer, of course, alluded to that most venerable and interesting relic of Roman civilization, the Roman wall. He need hardly say that that farmer was not a member of any Archaeological Society. With regard to what the Society had done during the past year, they were aware that now that the museum had been handed over to the Corporation, the chief work of the Society lay in its *Transactions*. During the past year a number of papers had been published in three parts. There was an allusion in the report to local histories, and he would only refer to the paper published in the *Transactions* on the history and antiquities of his own parish, in order to say that whether the paper was good, bad, or indifferent, he thought it set a good example, which he trusted would be extensively followed. Parochial histories must always form a large proportion of interesting material for Archaeological Transactions. There had also been a paper on Birds by Mr Beckwith, and he referred to it lest he might seem to have overlooked the fact that their Society was not merely an archaeological, but also a Natural History Society. There was also a paper, or rather a continuation of a paper, on Obsolete Punishments in the County, and a paper on one

of the Shrewsbury Guilds, Mr Drinkwater's paper on the Glovers' Company; besides papers of historical interest relating to ancient castles in the county, to Bridgnorth, Bishop's Castle, Wenlock, and Newport, &c. They had therefore taken a somewhat wide range of subjects, and no one could say they had not tried to be representative in the papers selected. But, as a member of the Editorial Committee, he wished to say that however excellent that Committee and its Secretary (Mr Adnitt) might be, they could only deal with the material placed at their disposal. He would venture to urge upon those who had literary proclivities as well as antiquarian tastes, and who had sufficient leisure, to set their brains and pens to work as soon as possible, and give them a number of papers for their *Transactions*. It sometimes happened that the Editorial Committee had a certain number of pages to fill up, and had nothing quite suitable or ready for the purpose. A great deal yet remained to be done with regard to the archaeology of that county. There was one great work yet to be accomplished, and they would be only too thankful if it made its appearance in the pages of their *Transactions*—a continuation of Eyton's *History of Shropshire*. That history was only brought down to the year 1300, and therefore failed to take account of the most interesting historical remains and associations in the county. There was, for instance, Battlefield, which had a most interesting history, and was associated to some extent with his (the Chairman's) own parish; for the title was transferred from his parish of St. Julian's to the foundation of Battlefield, and so got lost. He would ask their young archaeologists to bear in mind the importance of continuing to a later period the history which Eyton had so well begun. He thought there was no county in England which ought to have a more flourishing archaeological society than Shropshire, for taking it all through he did not know of any county which was richer in antiquarian interest of almost all periods. But their Society was not quite so flourishing as it ought to be. They would find from the report which had just been presented that there was a certain amount of debt still hanging around the Society's neck, which they had not yet been able to get rid of. The Society held its own, but not more than that, and it was sometimes almost left to struggle for existence. He did think that if this state of things became known to the intelligent and educated classes of the county, they would have a large accession of members, and would soon set this matter right. It was for the purpose of obtaining new members that the offer had been made, which was alluded to in the report, that those who joined the Society at once should have the privilege of receiving the *Transactions* for the past years at a considerably reduced rate. He sincerely hoped that the expectation expressed in the conclusion of the report would be fulfilled, so that they might add new members to their ranks to fill up the gaps, resulting from deaths, removals, and other causes. They preachers were in the habit of bringing in a practical conclusion at the close of their sermons; and he thought the practical conclusion of the whole matter was that they should arouse themselves to increased energy in the pursuit of that science of archaeology which, he believed, they all loved, and to stir up others to the pursuit of that science, which was not a mere science of crotchets, but, as he had endeavoured to point out, a science of real practical value and utility even in these modern days:—

They serve not the present less but more
Who love the ages gone before.

(Cheers.) He begged to move "That the report and

statement of accounts be adopted, printed, and circulated among the members of this Society."

Mr HUMPHREYS seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

It was then proposed by Dr CRANAGE, seconded by Mr RALPHS, and agreed to—"That the members of the Council being eligible for re-election, he elected the Council for the ensuing year."

The Rev. Canon ALLEN proposed, and Mr HARDING seconded, "That the best thanks of this meeting be given to T. Slaney Eyton, Esq., for his services as treasurer during the past year." Carried.

It was also agreed on the motion of Mr PHILLIPS, seconded by Mr SOUTHAM, "That the best thanks of this meeting be given to the auditors, Mr Oldroyd and Dr Calvert, for their services during the past year, and that they be re-elected auditors for the current year."

Mr HARDING inquired whether anything had been done with regard to the old pulpit on the premises of the Potteries Railway Company at Abbey Foregate.

The CHAIRMAN said the Company was described as being in Chancery, and the matter was therefore in statu quo.

In answer to a question it was stated that the pulpit belonged to the Abbey parish, and the opinion was expressed that it should be allowed to stand in its present position as long as possible.

Mr SOUTHAM said he should like to call attention to the desirableness of depositing so far as practicable, old historical records and old engravings and drawings of any value and interest, in the Reference Library so that they might be collected in one place and properly taken care of. He was told that there were in the strong room at the Shire Hall, a lot of most interesting town and county records, and he thought that Society might very well consider if some arrangement might not be made for putting them in order and providing facilities for access to them. He was glad to say they had recently succeeded, partly through Mr Phillips, in securing possession of a very valuable old book, which would be a most interesting addition to their Reference Library.

The CHAIRMAN said the book referred to by Mr Southam was an edition of Archdeacon Owen's "Little Book," a history of Shrewsbury, interleaved, and extended into three large folio volumes by means of a great number of fine original drawings. It was a most interesting book, and they were very much indebted to Mr Caswell, whose private property it was, for obtaining possession of it, as well as for a very handsome subscription.

Mr SOUTHAM suggested that some gentleman should be deputed to arrange the documents now in the strong-room at the Shirehall, and that a selection from them might be published in the *Transactions*.

Mr ADNITT said he thought the Corporation should take the matter in hand.

Mr SOUTHAM thought it would be well that the Society should make some representation on the subject to the Mayor and Corporation, and he should be very glad to back it up at the Council.

Mr PHILLIPS said he was glad Mr Southam had brought the subject forward. There were a number of deeds relating to family property and other documents in the possession of private owners, and of legal gentlemen, which were of no practical value to the owners, but which might furnish valuable contributions towards the history of the county, and it would be an excellent thing if they could obtain convenient access to those documents.

After further discussion the following resolution was, at the suggestion of Mr Southam, proposed by the CHAIR-

MAN, and was seconded by Mr PHILLIPS:—"That this meeting is of opinion that it is highly desirable that the ancient records of the borough and county, now in the Guildhall, should be arranged by some competent and careful person or persons, so as to be ready for the inspection of her Majesty's Historical Commissioners at an early date."

Dr. CRANAGE—Not for the public then?

The CHAIRMAN—That will come afterwards.

The resolution was then agreed to.

Dr. CRANAGE asked if a duly authorised custodian had been appointed of the Roman remains at Wroxeter and Uriconium.

The CHAIRMAN said the matter had been under the consideration of the Council, but nothing had yet been done. They understood that the daughter of the late custodian was performing the duties.

Dr. CRANAGE said it was important that some competent man should be appointed custodian, who would be able to protect the remains from injury.

The CHAIRMAN said the Council would no doubt deal with the matter at an early date.

The proceedings then ended.

NOVEMBER 30, 1887.

NOTES.

WILLIAM BAXTER.—The following is from Pegge's "Anonymiana" (1809), p. 231:—

Mr Edward Llwyd, speaking of a British Remain, in Mr Rowland's "Mona," p. 334, says:—"I have sent it to one Mr ———, a Shropshire Welshman, and a famous linguist and critic; but he returned me such an interpretation as I shall not now trouble you withal." The person here intended was Mr William Baxter, I imagine, who was a correspondent of Mr Llwyd's, and answers perfectly to the description here given of him; particularly he was full of whims and chimeras, and might send Mr Llwyd the wild interpretation he mentions, which he tells us, in the next page, was surprising.

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN WELSH AND GRECIAN CUSTOMS.—A writer in the "Gentleman's Magazine" in 1758 (Vol. 28, p. 484) contributes a note on this subject. Without occupying too much space, perhaps the following extract may interest readers of *Bye-Gones*:—

It appears from Homer that the *Grecians* were boasters of their pedigree, and this is still the humour of the *Welch*, where every old woman is a genealogist. The *Grecians* were hospitable to strangers, and so are the *Welch*. The former had funeral games; the latter play all the antics imaginable the night before a funeral. There were begging poets in *Greece*, and there are begging bards in *Wales*. The *Grecians* were lovers of dancing, running, wrestling, boxing, and quouting; so are the *Welch*. The *Grecian* superstition is at this very time a part of the religion of the peasants in *Wales*. They talk of wandering ghosts, goblins, witches, conjurors; of a person's destiny calling to him before his death; nay more, of seeing the devil. They regard omens, dreams, and divinations. They, like the *Grecians*, entertain their reapers with music, and use it at funerals and weddings.

THE BROGYNTYN MSS.—BRIAN FITZ COUNT.—Mr J. H. Round of Brighton, writing in the *Athenæum* of Oct. 22, 1887, says:—

In the course of some researches on Brian fitz Count for

his life in the "Dictionary of National Biography," I have noted a curious fact which would seem to have been hitherto overlooked. The "Liber Epistolaris," or model letter-writer, of Richard de Bury, Bishop of Durham (1333-1345), is apparently in the possession of Lord Harlech, and was specially reported on at great length by Mr Horwood for the Historical MSS. Commission (1874). From this report we learn that among the letters preserved for us by the indefatigable prelate is one from Henry (of Blois), Bishop of Winchester, to Brian fitz Count, with the latter's reply. Brian, we learn, had (according to Mr Horwood), told the bishop "that he was bound by oath to his uncle King Henry of happy memory, and that he would adhere to his son," &c. There is clearly an error here, the scribe, or Mr Horwood, having obviously read "filio" for "filiz." The object of Brian's unflinching fidelity was no other than the Empress Maud. Now a most instructive letter of another ecclesiastic, Foliot, written *ex parte imperatricis*, commends Brian for this same fidelity, and gives us the very interesting information that a treatise in support of her claim had been compiled by Brian himself. This being so, it is matter for regret, and, indeed, for some surprise, that Brian's reply to the Bishop of Winchester is briefly entered by Mr Horwood as "a long reply to the above." This letter, which extends over three folios, and is probably the earliest in the volume, should obviously be published in extenso, and may throw some very welcome light on an important, but obscure period in the history of the twelfth century.

BONWM.

OUR SAVIOUR'S LETTER.—The following is one of several versions of "Our Saviour's Letter," which at one time seems to have been popular in Wales. This was "printed and sold by J. Salter, Newtown," and on the same sheet are printed three hymns and a description of "The Happy Man." Above the "Letter" is a rude portrait of the Saviour, surrounded with the words "Glory to God on High, Peace on Earth, and Good Will towards Men." The sheet was found in an old Bible at a farm house on the borders of Carno parish:—

A Copy of a Letter written by our Lord and Saviour,
JESUS CHRIST,

And found eighteen Miles from Iconium, sixty-three Years after Our Blessed Saviour's Crucifixion.—Transmitted from the Holy City by a converted Jew, Faithfully translated from the original Hebrew copy, now in the possession of Lady CUBY's Family, in Mesopotamia.

WHOSOEVER worketh on the Sabbath day shall not prosper. I command you all to go to church and keep the Lord's day holy, without doing any manner of work. You shall not idly spend your time in bedecking yourself with superfluities of costly apparel, and vain dresses, for I have ordained it to be a day of rest. I will have it kept holy, that your sins may be forgiven you. You shall not break my commandments, but observe and keep them, and write them in your heart, and steadfastly observe what is written, and spoken with my own mouth. You shall finish your labour every Saturday in the afternoon by six o'clock, at which hour is the preparation of the Sabbath. I advise you to fast five Fridays every year, beginning with Good Friday, and continuing the four Fridays immediately following, in remembrance of the five wounds which I have received for all mankind. You shall diligently and peaceably labour in your respective callings, wherein it hath pleased God to place you. You shall love one another with brotherly love, and cause them that are baptized to go to church and receive the sacrament baptism,

and the Lord's supper, and to be made members of the church: in so doing I will give you long life and many blessings; and your land shall flourish, and bring forth in abundance; and I will give unto you many blessings and comforts in the greatest temptations, and he that doeth to the contrary shall be unprofitable. I will also send hardness of heart upon them till I see them, but especially upon the impenitent and unbelieving. He that hath much by giving to the poor shall not be unprofitable. Remember, he that hath a copy of this letter written with my hand, and spoken with my tongue, and keepeth it without publishing it to others, shall not prosper; but he that publisheth it to others shall be blessed of me: and though his sins be in number as the stars of the sky, and he truly believe in me, they shall be pardoned, but if he believe not in me and my commandments, I will send my own plagues upon him, his children, and his cattle.—And whosoever shall have a copy of this letter and keep it in their own houses, nothing shall hurt them neither lightning, pestilence, nor thunder: and if a woman be in labour, and a copy of this letter be about her, and she firmly put her trust in me, she shall be safely delivered.

✠ You shall have no tidings of me but by the HOLY SCRIPTURES, until the day of judgment. All goodness, happiness, and prosperity shall be in The house where a copy of this letter is to be found. BOWNM.

QUERIES.

CARDINAL MANNING AT OSWESTRY.—Is it a fact, as stated by "R. J." in the *Oswestry Advertiser*, that Cardinal Manning was once curate at Oswestry?

W.O.

BERWYN, MEANING OF.—A writer in the *Dover Express*, discussing "Dover's Original Name," suggests that it is derived from "dwr, dur, dufr, dobar, dohhoir," the Celtic word for water or river, and in the course of his argument he gives "Bior gwent," clear water, as the origin of "Berwyn," adding "Rhiadur is in the neighbourhood of Berwyn, to which I attribute the above interpretation, till corrected by local knowledge." Is not Berwyn more likely "the white ridge"? But I write chiefly for the purpose of eliciting comments on the quotation from the *Dover paper*. Of course, there are many Rhiadurs in Wales. The river, fall, and village of that name, are in the Berwyn district.

Wrexham.

F.

REPLIES.

PRINCESS VICTORIA AT WELSHPOOL (Nov. 23, 1887.)—The Princess Victoria reached Welshpool on Thursday, Aug. 2, 1832, and left on Friday, Aug. 3, for Wynnstay. W.O.

COLERIDGE AT WEM (Oct. 19, 1887.)—Hazlitt's father came to Wem in 1785. William was then seven years old. Eight years afterwards he went to a Unitarian College in London. After spending two years there, he returned home to Wem. This would be in 1795, the year when Coleridge paid a visit to the Old Manse. The house is still in existence, and the little wainscoted parlour. It is now occupied by Messrs Edge and Sons, tinmen, &c. I wonder whether Coleridge had anything to do with the change in William Hazlitt's career? This is certain, that at this time he gave up theological studies for metaphysics and painting. I was in the old parlour many times, over thirteen years ago. The last pastor of Noble-street, the Rev. George

Smith, died in that room, and previously to that time I visited him two or three times a week. I have seen the parlour to-day. It is wainscoted up to the ceiling. A new window has been put in, but the fireplace, a cupboard across one corner, and the oak floor, are all the same. The room is at the back of the house, and looks out on a small garden, and a door leads out of it into a front room. J. BRIENALL WALTON.

WELSH MAGISTRATES (Sept. 21, Oct. 5, 12, Nov. 2, 1887.)—Having looked at the Act of Parliament to which E. POOLE referred, limiting the number of Magistrates to eight for each county in Wales, as also to the Act of William and Mary repealing the former, I can confirm the accuracy of his statement in each case. In order to elicit further information on the subject, I append a second list of Breconshire Magistrates, for the year 1666, which was some twenty-seven years before the obnoxious clause was repealed. Although I do not know the county of Brecon sufficiently well to identify every local Magistrate, yet, as I am tolerably familiar with the class I called official, I venture to suppose a larger number than eight local Magistrates may be picked from among the following:—

A List of Magistrates on the File for the co. of Brecon, at the Great Sessions, held at the town of Brecon on the 9th of April, 180*, Ch. II.:—

Edward Earl of Clarendon.
Thomas Earl of Southampton.
John Lord Roberts, Keeper of the Privy Seal.
George Duke of Albemarle.
James Duke of Ormond.
Montagu Earl of Lindsey.
Edward Earl of Manchester.
Richard Earl of Carbury.
Henry Lord Herbert of Ragland.
Sir Richard Lloyd } Justices of the Great Sessions of
Arthur Trevor, Esq. } the aforesaid County.
William Lewis, Baronet.
Herbert Price, Baronet.
Sir John Herbert.
Lewis Morgan, Esq.
Marmaduke Lloyd, Esq.
Thomas Pryse, Esq.
George Gwynn, Esq.
John Jeffreys, Esq.
Edmund Jones, Esq.
Thomas Lewis, Esq.
John Stedman, Esq.
Wm. Morgan de Newton, Esq.
Walter Vaughan de Trebarrer, Esq.
Edw. Powell, Esq.
Thomas Williams, Esq.
Henry Williams, Esq.
Meredith Lewis, Esq.
James Watkins, Esq.
Thomas Bower, Esq.

Thomas Williams, Esq., Abercamlan. }
David Gwynn de Parke, } Oct. Sessions
Edwardus Powell, Esq. } additional
Willm. de Hunt, Esq. } names.

On the Montgomeryshire Gaol File for the same year (1666) there are 37 local Magistrates, all of whom are well known to me in an historical sense. Probably the explanation may be that the limit of eight was disregarded. PEARMAIN.

CURRENT NOTES.

COLONEL KENYON-SLANEY, M.P., retired last week from the Grenadier Guards on half-pay. The gallant officer has been connected with the Grenadiers for 21 years, having joined as ensign and Lieutenant 20th November, 1867; promoted Captain, 1870; Major, 1873; Lieutenant-Colonel, 1883; and Colonel, 1887. He served with his regiment in the Egyptian War of 1882, being present at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir, for which he has the medal with clasp and the Khedive's star.

THE AMERICAN MINISTER ON LLANGOLLEN.—The following letter from Mr E. J. Phelps, American Minister to Great Britain, addressed to Mr Ralph Darlington, Llangollen, who is now engaged on a handbook to the Vale of Llangollen, will be read with great interest by all who have visited the charming valley of the Dee:—"Legation of the United States, London, Nov. 26, 1887. Dear Sir,—My memories of repeated visits—not the last, I hope—to Llangollen and the beautiful valley of the Dee, are too rich and picturesque to be put upon paper. It is a story that would vanish in the telling. The charms of that lovely region cannot be enjoyed at second hand, nor conveyed by word of mouth—

How fair it is let others tell,
Only to feel how fair be mine.

I have seen no scenery in Great Britain that can rival North Wales, and nothing in North Wales so attractive, on the whole, as the valley of the Dee. Llangollen has another inducement to the traveller, less poetic, but not to be despised, that he may find there 'his warmest welcome at an inn.'—Very truly yours, E. J. PHELPS. Mr Darlington, Llangollen."

THE LATE ARCHDEACON ALLEN.—A brass to the memory of the late Ven. Archdeacon Allen has lately been put up in Lichfield Cathedral. The inscription was written by the Rev James Lonsdale, eldest son of the late Bishop of Lichfield. It is in Latin, and the following is a translation:—

SACRED TO THE MEMORY
OF JOHN ALLEN, M.A.,

Born at Pembroke, A.D., 1810,
Scholar of Westminster and of Trinity College, Cambridge,
H.M. Inspector of Schools,
Vicar of Press, Archdeacon of Salop,
Prebendary of Lichfield Cathedral,
Examining Chaplain of the Bishop of Lichfield for 24 years,
At length Master of S. John Baptist Hospital at Lichfield.
Died, A.D., 1886.

A man of unfeigned piety
He lived as ever seeing Him who is invisible.
His very countenance and conversation and all his bearing recommended religion.

His character had in it a significant simplicity.
We shall not look on his like again.
He returned in full measure the love felt for him by all good men,

Especially of John Lonsdale his own dear Bishop.

In company of friends he was joyous.

With a certain dry humour of his own.

A lover of transparent brevity.

In all his actions straightforward, far above tricks and shams.

A vigorous champion of righteousness.

Steady of purpose, not fearing the face of man.

Dear to the poor by daily visits at their homes.

Serving one Master, even Christ.

He toiled ever for others, never for himself.

To a father and husband deserving all love and honour

His wife and children

Dedicate this monument.

SHROPSHIRE SERVANT GIRLS AND THEIR SUPERSTITIONS.—The "morning costume" of our farmhouse girls used to be a "brat," of coarse blue or unbleached hempen cloth, which fitted them tight, all the way down, like a dumping cloth. Their purple, dimpled arms, which were bare nearly to the shoulders, were called "butter-tub arms." When they were "dressed up" in the afternoon, they wore linsey petticoats, which were not inconveniently long, with a narrow vertical stripe, "bedgowns," or short gowns, of blue-and-white "cotton print," and a white linen or check gingham apron in front. When their hair was "tidied," it was "done up," into a hard knob on the very crown of their heads; "improvers" were not then known, and they were not needed. These damsels were used to believe that if they scattered hemp seed in the garden at twelve o'clock at night, reciting this chant—

I sow hemp seed—hemp seed grow,
Let my true love come after me and mow,

their future husbands would appear, and great was the "flutter" and "agitation" with which this "spell" was performed, and as they dare not look behind them, and generally had to "run for shelter" before it was half over, they could not tell whether the "mower" was actually behind them or not. They were also used to pluck a leaf from the sage tree, at the "midnight hour," for the same purpose, and the strictest silence had to be observed whilst the performance was in progress. I remember a servant girl of ours being disturbed in the midst of her incantations by my father's gruff voice, with "Who's there," and "What are you doing." The girl inadvertently broke the "charm" by saying, in a ghostly whisper, "Heesht (hush) maister, we dar'na spake."—J.J.

FURTHER RECOLLECTIONS OF OSWESTRY 55 YEARS AGO.—"J.J." has revived many recollections of Oswestry, but the old familiar faces are nearly all gone. The harp at the Bricklayers' Arms Inn was chiefly played by the youngest son there, George Jones, a very intelligent boy and clever harpist. He was first a pupil of David Davies of the Rod Meadows, afterwards of the Gobowen, and Mr Blayney, who, I believe, was then harpist to the Earl of Powis, gave him lessons also. Blayney was a splendid player, did not pluck the strings as Davies did, but ran his fingers over them with gentle touch,

Most musical, but sadly sweet,
Such as when winds and harp-strings meet,
And take a long unmeasured tone,
To mortal minstrelsy unknown.

Young Jones adopted Blayney's style of playing, and he was much appreciated and beloved by the young men of the town. Mr Lewis Jones, the town clerk, who lived opposite and was a very genial man, often came in for a chat and to hear a tune on the harp. Mr Morgan, too, came regularly from his garden, close by, for his lunch beer and had a smoke in the little parlour between 10 and 11 a.m. I loved to peep through the wicket at that charming little garden, and if Morgan saw me, he would ask me in, and would tell me the pedigree of his auriculas and tulips, which I have had a liking for ever since. It seems to me that they were the most beautiful I ever saw. Although his garden was small, he allowed plenty of space between the bulbs and flowers, and the finely raked soil and general neatness of the garden helped to show the flowers to advantage. He sometimes took his apprentices with him to the garden, and one of them, William Jones, now of Oldham and Llandudno, is an eminent botanist, and an active member of several societies. He has had a costly microscope and an address presented to him by his brother members and fellow-workers. Blayney and George Jones died young, and were deeply lamented by their relatives and friends. Poor

young Jones's last days were extremely melancholy. He had great faith in the prospects of the United States of America, and crossed the Atlantic in a sailing vessel and had fearful stormy weather. The ship's course was for New York, but they were blown into the Gulf of Florida, water-logged and nigh wrecked, and Jones died soon after he landed, of rheumatic fever, in the quarantine hospital, Staten Island.—R.J.

IN THE FIELDS AND LANES.

The Carnarvon correspondent of the *Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald* gives the following description of a brilliant meteor seen there on Thursday evening:—The time was about 25 minutes past five, and we were on the South-road, near Bryn Morfa. The direction of the meteor was from east to west, and the elevation, when first seen, about 50 degrees, and about 10 degrees when last seen. The course slightly curved, but not parabolic. The time during which it was visible was from 10 to 15 seconds. When first seen, it carried a very bright strong tail, and was travelling with considerable velocity, in a radius of about 45 degrees. After travelling 30 degrees, it apparently burst and a large ball of the most brilliant blue appeared with a shower of sparks, some of which fell a short distance before disappearing. It kept going on, without any alteration in its course, for another 15 degrees, but before disappearing its tail was greatly diminished. It came first into our view apparently above Cwmlyglo, and disappeared over Anglesey. There was no sound from it, at any rate none was heard by us, but several conveyances were passing at the time. I have been told that it was seen by several persons, and among others by the Rev. Mr Watts and Mr Roberts, H.M. Inspectors of Schools.

A correspondent of the *Field* (Mr Hugh Jerman of Llanidloes) writes:—I have just received a beautiful specimen of the Golden Eagle (*Aquila Chrysaeta*) which was shot by Mr Richard Davies, a young man residing with his father at Nantygŵr, a farm on a spur of Plynlimmon range. Young Davies, busied in his occupation on the farm, observed the bird making several swoops, and at length alight upon the carcase of a sheep not very far from him. He cautiously fetched his gun from the house, and after a few fruitless attempts to approach near enough to fire with effect, at length, under the cover of a hedge, managed to elude the vigilance of the keen-sighted creature, which by this time had carried off the carrion wholesale to a considerable distance from where it had at first lain, fired and brought it down. The bird measures thirty-seven inches from tip of beak to tip of tail, and fully six feet across the wings. Its weight is close upon twelve pounds. The Editor of *The Field* in a note appended to the letter says: "We are so accustomed to hear of so-called golden eagles turning out to be the young of the sea eagle, a much commoner species, that we venture to direct attention to an unfailing mark of distinction in case any such mistake may have been made in the present instance. The foot of the golden eagle is feathered down to the base of the toes, the middle toe being reticulated for the greater portion of its length, and terminated by three broad scales. The foot of the white-tailed or sea eagle is bare for some distance above the toes, and the middle toe has broad scales throughout its entire length. In other respects, a young sea eagle, before it acquires the white tail, is not very unlike a golden eagle, though of a stouter build, and with a more robust beak." In the case of a similar occurrence reported in Derbyshire, about the same time, the bird turns out to be an ern, or sea eagle.

IDRIS VYCHAN.

Just as the death of Ceiriog severed one of the links which bound the old and new traditions of Welsh bardic history together, so does that of Idris Vychan awaken us to the sense of how he too linked the ancient and modern records of song together. He was old enough to remember the long-appreciated methods which helped so much to endear to Welshmen the ancient glories of Cambrian music, and young enough to enter upon the newer views which tended to give the Eisteddfod a greater hold upon the attention of the British people.

The harp of Ellis Roberts did not estrange him from the fiddle of Eos Twrog, and I have heard capable judges say, that Idris was as happy in the selection of pennillion as suitable to the one as to the other. That is not the case with all pennillion singers, and hence it seems to me Idris Vychan occupied a peculiar and a distinct place in the Eisteddfodic history of our country, and that in losing him we have lost far more than most people will imagine, when in the hereafter they come together to enjoy the musical treats provided for their pleasure and edification.

The Cymrodorion Society did well to publish the essay in which Mr Jones gave the rules for pennillion singing, and a selection of the Welsh airs best adapted to display this welcome part of vocal knowledge and skill; but to appreciate the true character of the man we should also think of him as an antiquary who had drunk deeply at the stream of tradition, whence so much of our past history can alone be met with. In his history of Dolgelley we see many marks of Mr Jones's erudition as an antiquary, but we have to peep into his account of the derivation and meaning of place-names before we can fully realize his title to distinction as a son who was thoroughly acquainted with the bardic, poetic, vocal, and antiquarian history of Cambria and her people. Take him for all in all, we shall not, I fear, look upon his like again.

But in saying so, I must especially urge the young bards and vocalists of North Wales to study the life and practice of Idris Vychan. We are a "nation" in one sense at least, and there is no reason why we should abandon our national characteristics because we happen to have fallen upon times when modern ideas are supposed to rule the public mind. In the nature of things we must become more and more Anglicized, but the Welsh will for ever find in their own histories elements of a peculiar greatness that the English can never lay claim to. Indeed many of the modern English writers find it necessary to study the old British records, and although they sometimes smile at our little faults, they are honest enough, on the other hand, to admit our many excellencies, and even to praise our language. Men like Ceiriog and Idris Vychan helped to engender this new spirit, and their successors must be careful not to smother it by accepting any modern faith that is prejudicial to the ancient traditions of the motherland. Let them say in the language of Rosalind, "To you I give myself, for I am yours."

We must not lose hope that all will be well with us, from that national point of view, even though our children should acquire a perfect knowledge of the English tongue. William Shakespeare must have had that spirit within him when he said—

True hope is swift, and flies with swallow's wings;
Kings it makes gods, and meaner creatures kings.

All our bards, poets, vocalists, may not be swans, but compare them with those of their own class in other countries, and the greatest of them are gods, just as many of the meaner sort are kings. Let the young aspirants

to fame remember that, and follow religiously the rules the masters have set before them, and if they do it then we can be very well assured that Idris Vychan's name will live in their remembrance, and that his good example will not be forgotten by them.—R. AP VAUGHAN.

DECEMBER 7, 1887.

NOTES.

MONTGOMERY—A VERY EARLY INCUMBENT.—John de Kaham.—On the 9th of January in the seventh year of the reign of Edward the First (1279) Letters Patent were directed to the Bishop of Hereford, of the presentation of Master John de Kaham to the church of Montgomery, void, and in the King's gift [m 25 (14) l. Z.

“GWYDIR.”—“Sir John Wynne's house (says Pegge in his ‘Anonymiana,’ p. 424) was called *Gwedir*; and this word ‘is said to signify *glass*; and this was probably the first house in those parts which had glazed windows,’ Wynne's *Gwedir*, p. 2. Is not *gwedir* a corruption of Latin *vitrum*? It is not a British word, as not occurring in Richards's Dictionary.” G.H.B. Cardiff.

PLOWDEN THE LAWYER.—Nash in his “Supplication to the Devil,” has the following:—

An antiquarie is an honest man, for he had rather scrape a piece of copper out of the dyrt, than a crowne out of Ployden's standish.

This Ployden is the famous lawyer to whom he applies the Shropshire proverb, “The case is altered, quoth Plowden,” and to whom there have been several references in *Bye-Gones*. G.H.B. Cardiff.

CURES FOR WARTS.—When I was a youngster I was much troubled with warts on my hands, and, living in a very superstitious part of Montgomeryshire, advice in various forms was deluged upon me. One old crone told me to catch a black snail and rub each of the offending elevations therewith; afterwards to place the slimy crawler on the highest thorn bush I could find, and to ensure its staying there a thorn should be rivetted through its body: it was there left to die and decay, by which time my warts were to do likewise. I never tried this cure myself, being rather averse to handling snails, but I know lots of people who have done it. Bacon, too, is a wonderful charmer of warts, but to effect this cure you must turn thief and steal the meat, and with it rub your hands all over, then bury it, and by the time this has rotted in the earth the warts will have disappeared. Another way is to collect as many white pebbles as you have warts, and after touching a stone to each, pack the pebbles in a neat parcel, and drop them where four roads meet. Whoever picks them up gets the warts! So impressed was I with the many charms I heard that, one fine frosty morning in going to school and finding a threepenny bit on a turning, I was afraid to pick it up, thinking some wart-laden hands had placed it there to get “shut of the plagues,” as they say in that part. Alas! I repented me of my folly many hundreds of times afterwards, for

threepenny bits were threepenny bits in those far-away village school-days, as they were to me like the proverbial angels' visits, very “few and far between.”

ENID.

WELSH MAGISTRATES.—*Hurtful to the three Shires of North Wales to have them.*—At the Record Office there is a document described as “Articles proving that it shall be hurtful to the commonwealth of the three shires in North Wales, that is to say, Anglesea, Carnarvon, and Merioneth, to have justices of the peace there.” The following are the reasons:—

1.—At the conquest of the said shires by Edw. I., laws were made at Rhuddland, one of which is that Welshmen should be kept in bonds and subjection, and not put in authority.

2.—The fact that most of the Commons are bound to appear at one Session in the year, and not depart without license, causes them to be of good order.

3.—Since the Conquest the Chamberlain has always been used to direct warrants of the peace to be returned before the justice [judge] at his next coming. If gentlemen there had authority to direct warrants and *supersedeas* it would put all out of good rule.

4.—No indifferent persons can be found to be Justices, as they are always at variance. There are none learned in the common law, or of sufficient substance in land to be *custos rotulorum*.

5.—Gentlemen, being justices of the peace, having quarrels would do much extortion.

6.—It has always been “very diffuse” for the chamberlain and justices to keep the peace between gentlemen and their partakers. If they were justices of the peace the chamberlain and justices would not be able to order them.

7.—If the justices of the peace determined indictments of felony few would be found guilty, for most of the gentlemen are bearers of thieves and misruled persons.

8.—The King's Commissioners in the Marches and the justices of the county should be examined whether it would be for the Wealth of the Shires that there should be justices of the peace.

9.—If the country be out of good order, the fault can be laid to the chamberlain and justices, but if there are justices of the peace, “the officers may excuse themselves every by other.”

Dated 4 Feby., 1536.

PEARMAN.

QUERIES.

COLONEL WEST.—Can any of your readers give an account of this Parliamentarian officer? Died before 1660. Was he of the Ruthin family? Did he take part in the Battle of Powick Bridge? G.G.

TANNATT OF ABERTANAT.—I find in Llangynog record of an Edward Tannatt, who died a few years ago, son of Edward Tannatt of Tanygraig, Llangynog, better known in the neighbourhood as “Squire Tannatt of Tanygraig,” a man of considerable means in those parts in those days. Can anyone tell me which house of the Tannatts these descended from? CYMRO.

A RENT ROLL OF 1772 (November 23, 1887).—Referring to PEARMAN's interesting Rent Roll of the Newtown Hall Estate of 1772,

it would be instructive if we could compare the value of labour, beef, mutton, grain, &c., with the amount of rent. Can anyone supply the necessary information?
W.O.

MARKING A CROSS ON THE "HEPLAS."—Can anyone give a reason for making a cross on the batter, or what is commonly called "heplas," or sponge, when putting the bread to rise? Is it a relic of Popery? I never in my life saw bread put to rise without making this cross. Reason tells us it is a sort of outlet when fermentation begins, but why a cross? What is the origin of the word "Heplas," which is used by English speaking people?
SALOPIAN.

REPLIES.

RAINBOW SUPERSTITION (Nov. 23, 1887).—It is a well-known belief in Shropshire, that it is bad luck to point to a rainbow. It was so engraved upon my young mind that half a century has not erased the impression, and even now I would never raise my hand to a rainbow.
OFFA.

SHROPSHIRE WORDS. *Thatch* (Nov. 23, 1887).—Scarcely can this be considered a Shropshire word, as it is frequently used in the same sense in this district (Tregynon) of Montgomeryshire, 30 miles from Oswestry. It is probably allied to the Welsh *Tŷ*, a relic of the days when Welsh was the spoken language of Oswestry. Sparrows are almost invariably called *Thatch-birds*, Welsh *Adar y to*. "To hang up in the thatch," is an expression used to denote the laying aside of any article not used or wanted. The thatch was formerly the receptacle for numerous small tools, etc., not in frequent use.
T.H.J.

CURRENT NOTES.

The public interest in the "Life of Darwin" may be gathered from the fact that the first edition, though it consisted of 4,000 copies, was sold out a few days after issue.

In the Hawk and Buckle Yard, Denbigh, is an old cockpit, the only cockpit in the Vale of Clwyd, and the landlord has just gone to the expense of having it renovated, as an object of antiquarian interest.

Mr A. P. Heywood-Lonsdale has built a beautiful little church on his estate at Shavington, and it was opened on Advent Sunday. The officiating clergy were the Rev. A. Corbet, rector of Adderley, and the Rev. E. Billings, rector of Corra. Mr Heywood-Lonsdale read the lessons.

Mr T. A. Readwin, F.G.S., in a letter to the editor of the *Gwalia*, says that a rich discovery of native gold has been made in the parish of Trawsfynydd, at Gwynfynydd farm, near the beautiful waterfalls of Pistyll-y-Caen and Rhaiadr Mawddach.

The will, with a codicil, of Mr Hugh Pugh, late of Llys Meirion, in the county of Carnarvon, banker, has been proved, the value of the personalty amounting to upwards of £72,000. In addition to the above-named sum of £72,000 legacy duty is also payable on £30,000 vested in a trustee on trusts similar to those in the will.

The death is announced, at the Black Birches, Salop, in the 81st year of her age, of Mrs Esther Peel, widow of Mr John Peel, some time M.P. for Tamworth, and senior partner in the firm of Messrs John

Peel and Co., merchants, of Manchester. Mrs Peel, like her husband (who was her first cousin), was a direct descendant of the celebrated Robert, or "Parsley," Peel, of Peele Fold, Oswaldtwistle, Accrington, and cousin to the distinguished statesman, Sir Robert Peel. The funeral took place in the old parish church of Hadnal on Saturday. In compliance with her express wish, the remains were deposited in a common grave, round which were placed a large number of beautiful wreaths, tokens of affection on the part of near and distant friends and servants of the household.

On Wednesday Mr T. S. Humpidge, Ph. D., B.Sc., and F.C.S., professor of chemistry at the University College of Wales at Aberystwyth, died at the age of thirty-four. Dr. Humpidge was a native of Gloucester. He married Fraulein Johanna Rueder of Oldenburg, and had three children, two of whom are living. About eight years ago he succeeded Professor Rudler, now of the Royal School of Mines, in the professorship of chemistry at Aberystwyth College. He was also much respected as a scientific investigator, for, in addition to his work of teaching at the College, he carried on numerous and important researches into the chemistry of rare metals. On two occasions he has been awarded grants of £50 each made him by the Royal Society of London for the prosecution of his work on beryllium. He frequently conducted analyses for the urban and rural sanitary authorities; and delivered lectures on scientific subjects.

THE ABBEY CHURCH, SHREWSBURY.—The Bishop of Lichfield on Monday consecrated a new chancel, which has been added to the ancient Abbey Church of Holy Cross, in Shrewsbury, at the cost of £10,000, the whole of which amount has been given by an anonymous donor. There was a large attendance of the local clergy and laity.

WILL OF THE LATE SIR WYNDHAM EDWARD HANMER, BART.—Probate has been granted of the will, dated 28th January, 1886, with a codicil made 30th April last, of the late Sir Wyndham Edward Hanmer, Bart., of Bettisfield Park, Flintshire, who died on the 25th August last, and appoints as executors his brother, the Rev. Henry Hanmer, of Grendon, Warwick, and the Hon. George Thomas Kenyon, LLanerchpanna, Ellesmere, Salop, to each of whom he bequeaths £500, and to Mrs Henry Hanmer, £1,000; to the children of his sister the late Lady Charles Lennox Kerr, £1,000 each; to his sister Miss Caroline Hanmer, £1,000; to his valet £200; and the residue of his estate (the personalty being of the value of £20,576 18s 6d), in trust, to apply the income during the life of his son, the present baronet, to the maintenance and education of his children, and on the death of his said son for division in equal shares amongst all the children of his said son, other than the eldest or other son who may be his heir male or heir apparent.

The Late Mr. Owen Davies Tudor.

We regret to record the death of Mr Owen Davies Tudor, of the Middle Temple, barrister-at-law, who died on Nov. 14, at his residence in South Kensington, aged sixty-nine, from heart affection. Mr Tudor, who was the eldest son of the late Mr Robert Owen Tudor, was the author of "Leading Cases in Equity," "Mercantile Law," and many other important legal books. He was, in 1864, appointed Registrar of the Birmingham Bankruptcy Court, the business of which he conducted with great ability, delivering very able judgments. Mr Tudor continued in office until the closing of the Court by Act of Parliament, when the business of it was wound up in a most efficient manner with the aid of his valued and respected colleague, Mr Hill. Mr Tudor

had resided latterly at Eastbourne, near his son, the Rev. Owen Lechmere Tudor. He was warmly attached to the Church in Wales, and a supporter of its charities, a most kind and considerate landlord. His high integrity, cultivated mind, and genial manner, endeared him to a large circle of friends. The funeral took place on the 18th November. The first part of the service was very impressively read by the Rev. R. W. Forrest, D.D., Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral, and also at the Brompton Cemetery. The coffin was of polished oak, with handsome brass mountings, covered and surrounded with beautiful floral wreaths and crosses sent by loving friends, many of whom came to pay their last respects. The grave, which was beautifully lined with fresh moss, ferns, and flowers, is next to that of Mr Tudor's parents, who died in 1869.

IN THE FIELDS AND LANES.

Mr A. J. P. Child of Ellesmere writes to a contemporary:—On Lord Brownlow's Shropshire estate, near Ellesmere, a very fine and perfectly sound specimen of the larch was felled last spring, containing over 108 cubic feet of timber, the measurements being 80ft. long, 50in. girth under bark in the centre.

On the 19th day of November last I took two young ring doves (*palumbus*) from their nest in a leafless oak tree. Their crops were crammed with acorns. The marvel to me is that when in a state of nudity they survived the keen frosts. Was not their hatching rather late in the season?—S. WARD, The Wood, Llanymynech.

A good specimen of the hooded crow was obtained near here on November 16. It was quite unknown to the keepers in this neighbourhood, so that it quite puzzled them. It is the first I ever heard of having been obtained in this district; but I have since learned that a few have been seen near Corwen, ten miles from here. Mr Beckwith, in his "Birds of Shropshire," says it is very rare in that county.—THOS. RUDDY, Palé Gardens, Corwen, in *The Field*. [It is curious that the hooded crow, which is so well known as a winter visitor on the east coast, should be so rare in the west, particularly as it is common enough in many parts of Ireland.—ED.]

When out fishing in Shropshire a short time ago, I saw a squirrel coming towards the river Clun, from a small plantation a field away, and disappear down the bank. Wishing to see what he was doing, I went very quietly towards the place, and, when some fifty yards off, to my surprise, I saw him swimming across the river. He swam very well until he came to a branch of an alder tree, which touched the water, on to which he got, and then climbed up the tree. The river at the time was rather high, and running strongly.—G.A.C. in *The Field*. [Instances of squirrels swimming have been several times recorded in these columns, and this trait in their habits is perhaps not so uncommon as is generally supposed.—ED.]

Some of your readers may be pleased to hear that the crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) is plentiful about here (Corwen) at present. There are flocks of them feeding on the larch cones in the plantations adjoining Palé, the residence of Mr Henry Robertson. It is very interesting to observe them feeding; they pull off the cones and hold them against the branches with their claws while getting out the seeds, but they often cling, back downwards, to the cones. The birds now here are the first which have been observed on this estate, and I have only heard of two other specimens having been shot in the neighbourhood, and that was some years ago. They are not birds which can be easily overlooked, because they are very noisy when feeding; indeed, it was the noise they made which first attracted attention to them. Yarrell quotes from an old account, which

stated that these birds appeared in great numbers in the year 1593—a year of a great crop of apples. We have had an extraordinary crop of apples here this year, but the crossbills did not touch them. Four birds were shot for specimens—two males and two females; and I observe that the bills of the males cross each other in a contrary direction to that of the females, which is not according to the figures I have of a male and female.—THOS. RUDDY, Palé Gardens, Corwen, in *The Field*.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

The annual meeting and dinner of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion were held on the 29th of November, at the Grand Hotel, Trafalgar-square, London. The attendance was much more numerous than on former occasions, and it looked as if the ancient Society had taken to itself a new lease of life. Unfortunately its President, the Right Honourable the Earl of Powis, had, at the last moment, to forego his intention of being present, owing to a severe cold. He wrote to the Secretary, "I regret that I shall not be able to preside at the Cymmrodorion dinner on Tuesday, as I have had a cold and am advised not to attend public dinners at present. Pray express my regret to the members." In his lordship's absence, Dr Isambard Owen presided at the general meeting. The Secretary, Mr E. Vincent Evans, read the report for the year ended 9th November. In opening their report the Council felt constrained to take notice of the many eminent names removed from the roll of the Society by death since the day of its last annual meeting. Amongst those were Mr John Ceiriog Hughes, whose exquisite lyrics have for so many years been the delight of his Welsh-speaking countrymen, Mr Dan Isaac Davies, one of the most single-minded and clear sighted of Welsh patriots, Mr J. Roland Phillips, one of the foremost of the little band of investigators who have attacked the tangled skein of Cymric history, the Chevalier Lloyd, the historian of Powys Fadog, and a generous supporter of all Welsh movements, and Idris Vychan, whose genial voice will be much missed at our Eisteddfod gatherings. The Council announced with regret that Mr C. W. Jones, who had held the office of Secretary to the Society almost from the time of its revival, had resigned that post, owing to ill-health, and they had elected Mr E. Vincent Evans, whose qualifications for the post were already known to a large number of the members, to fill the vacant office. The Society had been further unfortunate in that a long and severe illness had deprived it of the valuable services of Mr Phillimore, as editor of its publications. Mr Phillimore, the Council were pleased to learn, had completely recovered from his illness, but had not yet felt himself in a position to resume the responsible charge of the Society's publications, to which, however, he continues to contribute. Dr Isambard Owen, at the request of the Council, had undertaken this charge since the commencement of Mr Phillimore's illness. Under his direction there had been issued "Y Cymmrodor," vol. viii., parts 1 and 2, "The Transactions of the Cymmrodorion Section of the National Eisteddfod of 1887," and "Reports of the Society for 1885 and 1886." The first part of vol. ix. of "Y Cymmrodor" will shortly be issued. The report next enumerated the meetings held by the Society during the past year, which were noticed fully at the time in the columns of the *Advertiser*. Due acknowledgment was made of the services of Mr John Owens in connection with the annual conversazione. The meetings of the Eisteddfod Section, which were presided over by the Rev Principal Edwards of Aberystwyth, and Professor Rhys of Oxford, were devoted to a continuous discussion on the "Future Development of the Welsh Educational System." The

various portions of the subject were introduced by papers from Principal Jones, Cardiff, Principal Reichel, Bangor, Mr Beriah G. Evans, Mr Wm. Edwards (H.M. Inspector of Schools), Miss Hughes, Cambridge, and Miss Dilys Davies. The Council had every reason to be satisfied with the success of the step which they ventured to take in arranging this series of meetings. The meetings from first to last were fully attended, and by a thoroughly representative audience, which included, besides the Principals of the three University Colleges, several of the Professors of the same, the Chief Inspector of Schools for Wales, and several of his colleagues, a number of Head Masters of Intermediate and Elementary Schools, and many ladies of great experience in the education of girls. The meetings may fairly be said to have made a distinct step in the progress of the Welsh educational movement. By a resolution then passed the Society of Cymmrodorion were formally requested to convene a further series of meetings of a thoroughly representative character in a convenient place at an early date. The council had accepted this responsibility on behalf of the Society, and, after taking counsel with representatives of each grade of education in Wales, had resolved to call a series of meetings at Shrewsbury early in January. Professor Rhys has consented to preside over the series. Formal invitations to the meetings have been issued to the following:—1. The Principals of the University, Theological, and Normal Colleges of Wales and Monmouthshire and one other representative to be selected by the Senate or Teaching staff of each such College. 2. The headmaster of every Endowed School for boys, and the headmistress of every Endowed School for girls in Wales, Monmouthshire, and the Oswestry district, and also the Headmistress of the Welsh school at Ashford. 3. The Headmaster or Headmistress of each of the leading Unendowed Schools within the same area. 4. Two representatives of each of the Associations of Elementary Teachers existing in Wales and Monmouthshire. 5. Her Majesty's Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Schools for Wales and Monmouthshire. 6. Two representatives of the Society for Utilizing the Welsh language, and two of the Association for promoting the education of girls. 7. The surviving members of the Departmental Committee upon Intermediate and Higher Education in Wales, viz., Lord Aberdare, Lord Emllyn, Mr Henry Richard, Professor Rhys, and Mr Lewis Morris, and one or two other gentlemen who have been specially connected with Educational movements in Wales. The Council had elected two additional Honorary Members during the year, viz., the Hon. Sir Samuel W. Griffith, K.C.M.G., of Queensland, and Dr. Max Nettlau of Vienna. The Report acknowledged gifts of books, &c., amongst others, from the Royal Irish Historical and Archaeological Society, the Powysland Club, per Mr M. C. Jones, Mr Woodall of Oswestry (*Bye-Gones*), and several American Welsh printed books, presented by Mr Henry Blackwell of New York. Mention was made of the new regulations respecting the use of the library. Several members of the Council retired in accordance with the rules, but being eligible, were re-elected. A vacancy on the Council, caused by the resignation (owing to the pressure of other work) of Mr W. D. Jeremy, was filled by the election of Mr Chas. W. Jones.—The Secretary read a large number of letters, in which the writers regretted their inability to be present at the meeting. The Bishop of Bath and Wells wrote, "I am very sorry that it will not be in my power to attend the dinner on the 29th, as I must be at Wells at the time." Lord Aberdare wrote, "I much regret that it will not be in my power to attend the annual dinner of the

Cymmrodorion Society." Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte regretted that ill-health compelled his absence. Lord Mostyn wrote, "I am very sorry that a previous engagement will prevent my attending the annual dinner of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion." Lord Tredegar was absent from a similar cause, as were the Dean of Llandaff, and Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. Sir Pryce Pryce-Jones was called home by the indisposition of Lady Pryce-Jones. Sir R. A. Cunliffe had to be in Northamptonshire, and Mr C. W. Williams Wynn, a very old friend of the Society, had to be in Yorkshire. Amongst other absentees, who wrote letters of regret, may be mentioned Lord Harlech, Lord Penrhyn, the Earl of Jersey, Sir Hussey Vivian, Lady Paget, Sir Edward Reed, Professor Cowell, Professor Rhys, Mr W. Rathbone, M.P., Mr Arthur J. Williams, M.P., Mr Bowen Rowlands, M.P., Q.C., Mr Henry Richard, M.P., and the Bishop of Bangor.—On the proposal of Mr Stephen Evans, seconded by Mr Marchant Williams, the report was adopted after satisfactory assurance had been given to Mr David Lewis that the Education Conference above alluded to would be carried on on an entirely non-political basis, and to Mr Howel Lloyd that early consideration would be given to the issue of special publications.—Resolutions were passed thanking the Lecturers and Artists, the Council, and its Chairman, Mr Stephen Evans, the Acting Editor, the Treasurer, the Auditors, the late Secretary, and Mr John Owens, for services rendered by them during the past year.

THE ANNUAL DINNER

was served in the Marble Room, and, thanks to the personal supervision of Mr Thompson, the manager of the Grand Hotel, it was excellently served in every respect. In the absence of Lord Powis the chair was occupied by General R. Owen Jones, C.B., of the Boundary Commission, a Merionethshire Welshman, who has attained a distinguished position in the Civil Service, and who with it all retains an ardent love for the Principality, its history, its literature, and its people. On the Chairman's right sat Mr George W. Taylor of Melbourne, who some months ago brought letters of introduction to the Society from the Cymmrodorion Society of Melbourne, and who this evening attended as the special guest of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion. On the Chairman's left sat Sir William Thomas Lewis, and Mr J. C. Parkinson, an Englishman of strong literary tastes, who finds delight in the study of Celtic literature and Eisteddfodic literature. Sir Walter Morgan of Milsea, who takes special delight in Welsh archaeology, was, through an accident, prevented taking his intended place at the table. Amongst those present were Sir John Puleston, M.P., Professor Fredk. T. Roberts, M.D., Mr Stephen Evans, Dr Isambard Owen, M.A., the Rev John Davies, M.A., the Rev J. Elias Hughes, M.A., Mr Howel W. Lloyd, M.A., Mr T. Marchant Williams, B.A., Mr Ellis Jones Griffiths, M.A., Mr David Lewis, Mr John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia), Mr Richard Roberts, B.A., Mr George Griffiths of Cardiff, Mr T. Jeremy Thomas, C.C., Mr John Francis, Queen's Park, Mr William Owen, Westbourne Grove, Mr Wm. Daniel, Mr Owen Lewis (Owain Dyfed), Mr D. H. Evans, Oxford-street, Mr Alexander J. David, Mr T. Walter Williams, and Mr W. Tudor Howell of the Middle Temple, Mr Lewis H. Roberts, Mr Howel Thomas, Local Government Board, Mr Chas. W. Jones, Mr Hugh Edwards, Mr Watts-Hughes, Mr W. W. Woosnam, Mr W. Charles Evans, Mr W. Mynorydd Davies, Mr H. Lewis Jones, Mr John Pryce, and many others. The toast list, although not long, was a tolerably comprehensive one. The loyal toasts duly honoured, General R. Owen Jones proposed

the toast of "The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion," to which Mr Stephen Evans, as Chairman of the Council, responded. Mr Evans referred in general terms to the part which the Society had taken in matters affecting the welfare of the Principality.—At this juncture, Dr Isambard Owen, on behalf of the subscribers, presented the late secretary, Mr. C. W. Jones, with a testimonial amounting to £40, which had been collected in the course of a very few days. Mr Jones in response, delivered a warm speech of thanks and congratulation on the success of the Society, tempered with regret at the severance of his old official connection with it.—Mr David Lewis proposed the toast of "Literature, Science, and Art," for the encouragement of which more especially in the Principality the Society was first established.—Mr Parkinson responded happily for Literature; Dr Frederick Roberts spoke with point for Science; and Mr John Thomas, harpist to her Majesty the Queen, represented Art.—"Cymru, Cymro, a Chymraeg," was proposed by Mr Marchant Williams, who spoke of the advance in national feeling during recent years, and was responded to by Mr G. W. Taylor, in an intensely patriotic speech, wherein Nationalism and Unionism were happily blended, and by the Rev. J. Elias Hughes.—Sir John Puleston very appropriately proposed the toast of "The Eisteddfod," to which Mr Richard Roberts responded.—The health of the Chairman was felicitously proposed by Mr Howel W. Lloyd, General Jones contenting himself with a brief acknowledgment of the enthusiastic way in which the toast of his health had been received.—Mr Ellis Jones Griffith did justice to the toast of "The Ladies," and Mr W. Tudor Howell, son of the Rev. Canon Howell of Wrexham, very pleasantly replied on behalf of the fair sex, who, I should have said, were well represented at the dinner.—The concluding toast, that of "The Council and Officers of the Society," was proposed by Mr J. W. Szlumper, and acknowledged by Dr Owen.

DECEMBER 14, 1887.

NOTES.

THE OLD GAOL—NEWTOWN.—Mr. Swift's Vaults stand now on the site of a public House formerly known as the Old Gaol. I have often, in years gone by, endeavoured by conversation with old people to find if there ever had been a Gaol in Newtown, but no one ever threw any light upon the subject; the following copy of a Commitment sets that question at rest—

To Edward Lewis

The Keeper of His Majesty's Common Gaol at Newtown in and for the County of Montgomery or to his deputy there.

"I send you herewith the body of John Harris of Machynlleth committed on suspicion of stealing a horse the property of John Aldwell, Gent., of Chirbury, to keep him in the said Gaol till he should be discharged in due course of law.

Dated at Machynlleth 19 May, 1724. Signed by Thomas Owen (of Llanilloedd) Committing Magistrate."

The following year a similar document was addressed to Edward Lewis signed by E. Lloyd of Aberbechan.

PEARMAN.

OSWESTRY AND OTHER PLACES IN SHROPSHIRE IN THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD. Continued. (Nov. 16, 1887.)

(20) W. Crowne, London, July 16, 1644, relating his interview with the Committee of both Kingdoms, his request for more strength and money for Lord Denbigh, the

regret of the Committee that they cannot give Lord Denbigh all his desires, and their decision to refer his request "to the cons'n of Mr Purpoine and Mr Crew." Crowne hears of an ordinance put in by "one Mr Geust" and some friends of Col. Fox's, to give to a committee of six, in Worcestershire, power to appoint Commanders and to raise money which would be destructive of Lord Denbigh's power; also, that the Commons have passed a vote that Sir Thomas Middleton, since the relieving of Oswestry and the taking of Mr Newport, is to have all the profit of their (Lord Newport and his son's) lands during these wars for the maintaining of his forces. If it goes to the Lords he has taken means to stop it, and he has taken a copy of the Ordinance that makes Lord Denbigh a general to shew it to the house to-morrow—in the hope that they will leave him the power that he has, or bestow more on him.

(21) The same, July 18, 1644. Cannot get money or arms from the Committee, but believes that the ordinance giving Sir Thomas Middleton Lord Newport and his son's estates to pay his troops with will never go further, "for Mr Corbett doth join with me to stoppe it—and hee produceth 2 ordinances that giveth the Shropshire gent: power to seize upon all delinquents estates."

(22) Col. Mitton, Oswestry, July 18, 1644. "P[rince] Rupert is retreatinge this waie where I shall have releife I cannot imagine. I will referre all to God now defend the towne to the utmost of my power and if the enemie gaine it I hope you shall heare y^t there shall be no neglect in your humble servant, Tho^r Mitton."

(23) W. Crowne, London, July 19, 1644. " . . . I cannot doe any good as yett for yo'r Lo'ps 1,000*l*, and armes I ame put of [f] until Tuesday next—I think I have stoped the ordinance of Parliam^t concerninge Worcestershire untill yo'r Lo'p cometh, and for ye order of the Commons concerninge S^r Thomas Middleton, giving Lord Newports and his sonns estate. I believe I have staid that."

(24) Captain Rob't. Turton, Wem, July 21, 1644, for leave of absence to recruit his company and see to some urgent business of his own.

(24a) Francis Newport, Stafford, Aug. 27, 1644, complaining that "they are here now contrary to your Lo'ps (Lord Denbigh) order removinge S^r Gerrard Eaton, Major Manley and myselfe to Eccleshall Castle where there is noe accommodation in any respect fit for a gentleman." He asks that he may either be sent back to Stafford or sent up immediately to London.

(25) Francis Newport, Gerard Eyton, and Francis Manley, Eccleshall Castle, Aug. 29, 1644—respecting their sufferings at Eccleshall, aggravated by all the circumstances that tyranny and baseness can be guilty of. "Our accommodation is soe untoward at present that we have scarce philosophy enough to undergoe it but that doth not so much beg[e]t; this addresse as the noble sense we are assured yo'r lordship is swayed by to any gentleman's misfortune which we throw ourselves upon as men that would not owe a favor of this nature to any other than yo'r Lordship." In a postscript Newport asks Lord Denbigh, if he must be sent to London, that he may not be sent to the Tower or Peter-house, but that he may be committed to some private house on his parole or any other engagement.

(26) Mr E. Moore, Oswestry, Oct. 21, 1644. The Committee of Oswestry have been active in procuring hands in the garrison without the privy of the Colonel, to elect Sir Wm. Brereton general over Shropshire. Many soldiers were seduced, "but wee have endeavoured to rectify all."

(27) Copy of an ordinance of Parliament Die Jovis—24^o October 1644 transmitted to Lord Denbigh by the Earl of

Essex, under date "Reading 1 Novr. 1644" commanding that no quarter should thenceforth be given to any Irishman or papist born in Ireland, and that they should be excepted from every capitulation and forthwith put to death.

(28) Roger Fenwicke and Anthony Hungerford, Nov. 7, 1644. The soldiers at Moreton Corbett and Stoke are discontented for want of clothes, shirts, and shoes, and without speedy direction from Lord Denbigh, the writers fear there will be a great abatement both of officers and common soldiers. "Newe is the time of greatly advantageinge the publike, the enemie being in these parts altogether disheartened through their great losses."

(29) The officers of Lord Denbigh's regiment at Wem, Nov. 22, 1644, representing the extremities to which they are reduced by the destructive Courses adopted by the Committee of Wem to "ye end that they may overthrow us by their pollicy, it not being in their power to disband us." They crave speedy orders to remedy this extreme necessity and will approve themselves Lord Denbigh's faithful servants, "notwithstanding the Committee's report of yor. lordships no more coming downe as General."

(30) Narrative of an attack on Wem by Lord Capel, the preparations for its repulse, their success and the pursuit of the assailants (1644). (No particulars given).

(31) Copy of a letter without date in which the writer requests that as he and Lieu.-Col. Blodwell have for some time left the King's service they may be allowed to live in Oswestry and have their defensive arms restored to them.

(32) Petition of Thomas Lloyd, gent., complaining that some of Lord Denbigh's soldiers have arrested him while on a journey, have taken his money, horse and sword, and carried him prisoner to Oswestry, and praying to be set free. (Not dated.)

(33) Petition from Lord Denbigh's officers and soldiers stating their destitute condition in respect of money and clothes, as well as the necessity for increasing their force "wch may plainly appeare if yo: please to call to mynde the service at Dudley, and at Mont[?]ford Bridge in our returne from Shrewsbury, Cholmly House and other places." (Not dated.)

(34) Copy of Lord Denbigh's undertaking to pay Wm. Crowne his late secretary £100, Sep. 20, 1645. This document explains the relative positions of Lord Denbigh and the writer of the communications, Nos. 20, 21, 23.

(35) William Crowne, Salop, Oct. 31, 1645, sending Lord Denbigh two boxes of Shrewsbury cakes as a token of esteem from his sister Mackworth.

(36) Anthony Hungerford, Salop, Sep. 23, 1646, praying that his commission for the government of the garrison of Stoke Manor may be signed, and that Lord Denbigh would use his interest to have him appointed major to the standing Companies in Shropshire.

(37) The Committee of Wem, July 8, 1644, urging Lord Denbigh to attack certain garrisons of the enemy which threaten the existence of Wem.

(38) Lieut.-Col. Pudsey, Shrewsbury, July 11, 1644, informing Lord Denbigh that he has been taken prisoner at Shrewsbury, and that the Governor will accept no exchange for him except Mr Newport.

PEARMAN.

QUERIES.

EVANS, THE SOUTH SEA HOUSE CASHIER.—Charles Lamb in his essay on "The South Sea House," one of a series of popular essays which appeared in the *London Magazine* between August 1820 and October

1822, gives the following sketch of the cashier, a Welshman, named Evans:—

The cashier at that time was one Evans, a Cambro-Briton. He had something of the choleric complexion of his countrymen stamped on his visage, but was a worthy sensible man at bottom. He wore his hair, to the last, powdered and frizzed out, in the fashion which I remember to have seen in caricatures of what were termed in my young days *Maccaronies*. He was the last of that race of beaux. Melancholy as a gibeat over his counter all the forenoon, I think I see him, making up his cash (as they call it) with tremulous fingers, as if he feared every one about him was a defaulter; in his hypochondry ready to imagine himself one; haunted, at least, with the idea of the possibility of his becoming one; his tristful visage clearing up a little over his roast neck of veal at Anderson's at two (where his picture still hangs, taken a little before his death by desire of the master of the coffee-house, which he had frequented for the last five-and-twenty years), but not attaining the meridian of its animation till evening brought on the hour of tea and visiting. The simultaneous sound of his well-known rap at the door with the stroke of the clock announcing six, was a topic of never-failing mirth in the families which this dear old bachelor gladdened with his presence. Then was his *forte*, his glorified hour! How would he chirp, and expand, over a muffin! How would he dilate into secret history. His countryman, Pennant himself, in particular, could not be more eloquent than he in relation to old and new London—the site of old theatres, churches, streets gone to decay, where Rosamond's Pond stood, the Mulberry gardens, and the conduit in Cheap—with many a pleasant anecdote, derived from paternal tradition, of those grotesque figures which Hogarth has immortalised in his picture of *Noon*, the worthy descendants of those heroic confessors, who, flying to this country, from the wrath of Louis XIV. and his dragoons, kept alive the flame of pure religion in the sheltering obscurities of Hog Lane, and the vicinity of the Seven dials!

(See *The English Essayists*, Nimmo's Edition, p. 287, col. 2.) Can any of your readers say what part of the Principality Evans belonged to, and who were his family?

BONWM.

GOLD IN WALES.—Apropos of the new discovery of gold in Wales, on the Garn mountain near Llanellyd, Mr T. A. Readwin, F.G.S., suggests that when King Charles the First had his mint at Aberystwyth, under the management of his trusty Mint-master Thomas Bushell, Welsh gold three pound pieces were struck by Bushell, one of which is in Mr Readwin's collection, weighing 411 grains, and bearing date 1644. This beautiful coin is identified as Welsh metal, by having three plumes of feathers on the reverse as well as the feathers as mint-mark on the obverse. The gold piece referred to has on the obverse CAROLVS. D: G: MAG: BRI: FRA: ETHIBER: REX. Bust, to the waist, in profile, turned to the right, crowned, and in armour. A drawn sword in the right hand, and an olive branch in the left. Marked with the feathers in the legend, and behind the head. The reverse has EXVRGAT·DEVVS·DISSIPENTVR·INIMICI. In three lines across the middle of the area RELIG: PROT: LEG: ANG: LIBER PARL: under the numerals III., with three plumes of feathers above and 1644 below. Mr Readwin's idea is that it was impossible for Mr Bushell to get silver enough

from the Cardiganshire lead mines to enable him to lend his Royal master more than half a million sterling during the great rebellion of 1642-46; and that, therefore, he must have furnished the amount principally in gold coin. Coupling this with the mineralogical facts that little or no gold has been discovered in Cardiganshire, and a good deal of gold at various times has been found in Merionethshire, he concludes that the gold was gotten from the hills of Merioneth out of the Royal Mines which the astute Bushell held "near Barmouth" at that period. It is a matter of history that the unfortunate monarch granted Lundy Island (at the entrance of the Bristol Channel) to Thomas Bushell ostensibly for the purpose of safe-guarding his lead ore. Bushell built a castle thereon and strongly fortified it, not so much, Mr Readwin thinks, for the purpose of safe-guarding the ores of lead as for taking care of the much more valuable and portable commodity, gold, which could be very easily transported thither along the Mawddach via Barmouth. Are any other of the "Welsh gold coins" existent in Wales? W.O.

REPLIES.

A RAINBOW SUPERSTITION (Nov. 23, 1887).—With reference to Bonwm's note, concerning the belief that it is unlucky to point to the rainbow, I can remember when a child being told about forty years ago, when staying with some relatives in the parish of Llan-silin, that it was unlucky to point to the moon. Seeing the moon rising over the hills one night I said, pointing to it, "I wonder whether they can see the moon at Oswestry," and my aunt said I must not point at the moon as it was unlucky. I have never heard it said that it was unlucky to point to the rainbow. E.R.

BERWYN, MEANING OF (Nov. 30, 1887).—*Bar* is said to mean "a top or summit;" hence it is possible that *Berwyn* may mean "white-topped," as (*Twyn*) *Barlwm* in Gwent is said to mean "bare-topped." *Berwyn* was also a man's name in Old Welsh, and a Welsh saint so-called, said to be a son of Brychan Brycheiniog, has a church dedicated to him in Cornwall. As for the derivation from *Bior Gwent* "clear water," it is quite beside criticism. *Bior* is given as an old Irish word for "water," but there is no trace of its existence in Welsh, and there is no such word as *gwent*, in the sense of "clear," or in any other sense, in the Welsh language. The fictitious *gwent*, "clear," was apparently invented originally in order to supply a derivation for the common river-name *Derwent* (also occurring as *Darent*, *Darwen*, and perhaps *Dart*) from *dwr* and *gwent*, as if it meant "clear-water"; the real derivation of *Derwent*, which occurs as *Derguentid* in Old, and *Derwennydd* in Middle-Welsh, being from the word now spelt *derwen*, "an oak." The signification or derivation of *Gwent*, the proper name, is still wholly unknown to Welsh scholars. It was *Venta* in Latin, and was applied to three towns in Britain, from one of which, *Venta Silurum* (now Caerwent) it spread over the extensive district which still retains the name. With regard to Dover, the ancient name was *Dubris*, of course the same word as the well known Old-Welsh *dubr*, "water." The little stream on which Dover stands is still called the *Dour*, while the pronunciation of the modern Welsh (literary) form, *dufr* is almost exactly reproduced in the French name of Dover,

Douvres. *Dobar*, and *dobhoir* are the Irish, not the Welsh, forms. It seems a pity that writers (such as the one in the *Dover Express*) should speculate on Welsh or British etymologies before they have learnt to spell such a common Welsh word as *Rhaiadr*, to distinguish real from spurious Welsh words, or even Welsh from Irish. *Rhaiadr* (his *Riadur*) occurs in place-names pretty nearly all over Wales, though rare in the South. London. E.P.

RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN WELSH AND GRECIAN CUSTOMS (Nov. 30, 1887).—The extract from the "Gentleman's Magazine," 1758 (Vol. 23, page 484), which appeared under this heading, has much to interest, especially as it seems that not only have the Greeks many similar customs, but that many words in the Greek language are derived from the Celtic. Very recently I met with a very scarce first edition of a work upon this subject in the Public Library of Bayonne, the contents of which cannot fail to interest the Celtic philologist. I therefore give a copy of the title page of the work which, translated, reads as follows:—

New researches relating to the language, origin and antiquities of the Bretons, as an aid to the history of this people by Mr L.T.D.C., captain of the 80th Regiment of Infantry, of the Spanish Academy of History, and Member of the Museum of Paris.

Unius ætatis sunt Res quæ fortiter fiunt
Quæ vero pro patria scribuntur, æternæ sunt.

—Veget.

To these researches a glossary or table of comparison has been added, containing a great number of Greek, Latin, French, Spanish, German, and English words, &c., which in form and signification have still retained to the present time a close resemblance to the Celtic Breton and appear to have belonged originally to that language.

At Bayonne

Printing Office of Pierre Fauvet Junior

1792

In this work the author shows that many Greek and Latin words as well as those of other languages have their parent source in the Celtic, and at page 106 he says many learned men are of opinion that the Celtic formed the Ancient Greek language, such as it was, in the time of Cadmus. Space will not allow me to give extracts from the glossary contained in this book of 196 pages, but a double interest surrounds this valuable literary production when it is known that the initials in the title page represent those of La Tour d'Auvergne Corret, or as he was more generally known afterwards La Tour d'Auvergne, "Le Premier Grenadier de France," whose distinguished bravery culminated on the 27th June, 1800, when he was killed on the field of battle before Uber Hausen. Notwithstanding his many campaigns and hardships, in the intervals of his retirement in his native Province of Bretagne he devoted all spare time to the study of its language and its antiquities. At one part of his work he shows that the Welsh as spoken in Wales is the same language as the Celtic as spoken in Brittany. For some years after his death, his heart was always carried with his regiment in a silver case covered with black velvet, and when his name was still called from the regimental roll the response was "Mort sur le champ d'honneur." La Tour d'Auvergne was not only a brave soldier but a philosopher.

AMGEINIAD ELLAN.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr. F. Holl, R.A., has completed what is said to be an admirable portrait of Mr. Gladstone, taken at Hawarden.

A paper on the Cae Gwynn Cave was read by Mr. T. McKenny Hughes at the meeting of the Geological Society on Nov. 23.

The death is announced of the Rev. Edward Roberts, rector of Bunbury. Mr. Roberts, who was in his 73rd year, had held the living twenty-five years.

The autotype facsimile of the "Black Book of Carmarthen" is now ready for the binders. The work, which is limited to 250 copies, forms vol. ii. of the series of Welsh texts.

At the meeting of the Society of Antiquaries on Dec. 1, Mr. J. Willis-Bund, as Local Secretary for South Wales, read a report on various archaeological discoveries in his district, principally on the excavations at Strata Florida Abbey, and his own researches amongst the Roman remains about Llanio. He also spoke in strong terms of the great destruction now going on in South Wales of ecclesiastical and other remains.

The prize annually given by the members for the University of Cambridge for the best English essay at Cambridge has been won this year by Mr. William Lewis Jones, scholar of Queen's College, and of Llangefni Anglesey. The value of the prize is thirty guineas, and it is open to all undergraduate members of the University, as well as to bachelors of arts. The subject of the essay was "The educational value of the study of English literature."

The Rev. Glanfrwd Thomas, vicar of St. Asaph, in taking part lately in a debate on the question of the teaching of the Welsh language in elementary schools, mentioned, as an instance of the way in which the English language had been thrust on the Welsh nation, that within the memory of people now living, if any Welsh boy who attended an elementary school spoke one word of Welsh during school hours, he was compelled to wear round his neck a log of wood on which was carved the letters W and N, and was made to stand in the corner as a punishment.

The marriage of the Hon. Blanche Fitzroy, youngest daughter of the late Lord Southampton, to the Hon. Edward Douglas-Pennant, Lord Penrhyn's eldest son, was solemnized on Tuesday, Dec. 6, at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge. The bridesmaids were eight in number. The bride was given away by her brother, Lord Southampton. The marriage was the occasion of considerable rejoicings at Bethesda, where Lord Penrhyn's extensive quarries are situated, and at night the whole neighbourhood was ablaze with huge bonfires. At a meeting of the Carnarvon Conservative Working Men's Association, on Wednesday night, it was unanimously decided to present a congratulatory address to Mr. Douglas-Pennant on the occasion of his marriage.

THE LATE HON. MRS. BRIDGEMAN.—We regret to record the death, at the age of eighty-eight, at Knockin Hall, the residence of her son, the Rev. E. W. O. Bridgeman, of the Hon. Mrs. Bridgeman. The deceased lady was daughter of the late Sir H. Chamberlain, Bart., and in 1819 was married to Vice-Admiral the Hon. Charles Orlando Bridgeman (second son of the first Earl of Bradford) who died in 1860.

MORE NOTES ON OLD OSWESTRY.—When "Minshull the Printer" kept the King's Arms, in Salop-road, Oswestry, and the fairs and the wakes were held there, this district was the most lively part of the town. All stray dogs were

"kettled" at the blacksmith's shop in the Llys-lane, and turned "up town," with a hue and cry. Travellers had to thread their way as best they could along Salop-road at Eastertide. The women were a terror to all mankind. Four or six of them would be in ambush to "lift" the unwary with a chair. I well remember seeing a country gentleman riding leisurely "up town," when he was suddenly pounced upon, unhorsed, chaired, and tossed up and down, with a cheerful exclamation of woo! woo! woo! and almost before he recovered his surprise, some of them would give him what they called "a good smoucher." Of course he had to "fork out," when the ladies would assume much politeness, and all went bobbing around him. In those days there was an old Welshman called Jackey Roberts, who had an annuity of a shilling a day for spending money, which he never failed to do in cwrw da, and would sing over it, the chorus running thus:—

O cwrw da aminigo a borig;
Dan and aminigo are a borig!

It will be perceived I am no Welsh scholar, but Jackey kindly translated it for me, thus:—

O, good ale, thou art my darling,
And my comfort night and morning.

Publicans then brewed their own beer, from malt and hops, and vied with each other for the best tap—

The gravity of wort specific,
Was not that "knock um down terrific,"
But there was that old English charm,
Of having home-brewed beer and barn.

The proper fermentation by old mother nature made the ale clear, brisk, and sparkling, and a breakfast of "toast and drink" was considered a luxury. The monopoly of brewers with their finings, &c., &c., was happily then unknown, delicious small beer was sold at a penny a quart, and farmers had a much better price for their barley; but small beer was unpopular. I only knew one man who preferred it to strong beer, and he was "Billy Smallbeer." I am not sure if he was christened by that name, but I never knew him by any other. "Minshull the Printer" was master of the ceremonies, when any fun was going on, and clerk of the course at donkey races—

With yards of ribbon of various hue,
Yellow and orange, red, white, and blue.

He was the life and the soul of the sports. A man who was called "Sugar" supplied donkeys; he had a large troupe of them, and 'twas said the biggest of them came from Jerusalem. Minshull had them all properly named, and their pedigree proclaimed down to the remotest ages, even as far as Balaam's Ass. I have been to Epsom and Ascot races; have seen the Grand Prix run for in France, but the Salop-road donkey races beat the lot for fun. At the wakes there would be a stage erected, with a cross beam, for rolls and treacle, and boys with their arms tied behind them tried to eat the rolls dripping with treacle, and being suspended as they were by string, the performance was very amusing. Grinning through horse collars was another affair; and Minshull would have a lot of stockings hanging outside his shop labelled "for the competition of women to straddle for;" but I never saw the ladies at this performance. R. J.

EXPLORATIONS FOR GOLD IN NORTH WALES.

The *Times* publishes the following communication referring to the reports recently current as to the discovery of large quantities of gold in North Wales:—

40 and 42, Queen Victoria-street,
London, Dec. 6.

Sir,—I write in accordance with the wishes of my client, Mr. William Pritchard Morgan, of Bryntrinion, Dolgelley, and Queen Victoria-street, London, to put you in possession of the real facts concerning his discovery of gold in enormous quantities in

the quartz and blend and other formations in North Wales. Having taken all possible precautions to avert a premature disclosure of the facts, Mr Morgan has been enabled to open out various lodes in the Mawddach Valley, near Dolgelley, besides carrying out systematic explorations elsewhere, without making known until now the results he has obtained. He preferred to withhold the declaration of his convictions as to what he would be able to produce until bars of gold from the Welsh mines would give practical demonstration of their value. But as some flickering rumours of a ludicrously imperfect character have made their appearance in the papers within the last few days, Mr Morgan considers that it is better, under the circumstances, to throw off all reserve as to the true character of his undertaking without further delay.

In former times gold has been washed from the beds of rivers in Wales, but until now no systematic efforts have been made to penetrate the deeper-seated deposits in the quartz. In the Mawddach Valley, however, Mr Morgan has had about 100 men at work for several months, and has now, as the phrase goes, "stripped the lode," so that many thousands of tons of stone, richly laden with gold, are ready to be stoned.

On the grass he has already stacked about 2,500 tons ready for treatment, a great part of which has been estimated to yield six ounces to the ton. A few pennyweights of gold per ton reward the operations of gold mining to the satisfaction of many existing companies in the colonies. From stone already tested the lowest calculations point to an average all round of two ounces to the ton. What may be the ultimate annual yield of Welsh gold mining when the whole resources of the Principality come under development it is as yet impossible to conjecture; but the mine now in operation is, without doubt, one of the richest in the world, and there are fifty other sites in Wales alone where there is reason to believe that gold will be found in large quantities.

The scientific assistance which Mr Morgan has required all through the undertaking has been rendered by Mr William Crookes, F.R.S., president of the Chemical Society, and Mr T. A. Readwin, and the figures I have quoted are drawn up in accordance with their researches as to the value of the stone, and also in accordance with the practical experiments of Mr Morgan himself.

The importance of the subject is the only apology I can offer for venturing to trespass on your valuable space at such length. —I am, sir, yours faithfully, J. H. DAVIDSON.

The *St. James's Gazette* has a special account of the discovery of gold in Wales, a discovery which, it says, if the anticipations at present formed of it are realized, will prove of the greatest importance not only to Wales but to the whole country. The discovery has been made in the Mawddach Valley, about five [eight] miles from Dolgelley.—[The mine is on the hill behind Pistyll-y-Cain and Rhaiadr Mawddach].—A working, driven into one of the hills, has pierced a lode of quartz extraordinarily rich in gold, and there is every indication of the presence of gold-bearing strata to an almost indefinite extent. The fortunate owner of the property is Mr William Fritchard Morgan of Bryntirion, Dolgelley, and Queen Victoria-street, London. Mr Morgan has had a long connection with gold-mining in Australia, and about four years ago formed the impression that gold probably existed in the place where it has now been found. Having made some experiments, he decided, four or five months since, to begin systematic operations. He engaged a hundred men and set them to work to drive an adit into the side of the hill about half way above the level of the river which flows through the valley; and, after penetrating about 170ft. they came upon a vein of quartz, in the specimens of which gold could be plainly seen. The adit had struck the lode diagonally, and has now been carried across it for a distance of eighty feet. The lode was found to be 25 feet thick, and there are 100 feet of it above the level of the adit; to what depth it may descend into the heart of the hill is not known; but it is stated that the deeper the ore the richer it becomes. Besides this lode another of 66ft. in thickness has been found, and there are good indications of a third. The first lode has been so thoroughly stripped that about 150,000 tons of ore are actually in sight. On the grass Mr Morgan has already

stacked about 2,500 tons ready for treatment, and of this a great part is estimated by Mr William Crookes, F.R.S., to yield 6oz. to the ton. From stone already tested, the lowest calculations point to an average all round of 2oz. to the ton, which would quite justify the opinions expressed as to the magnitude of the discovery. In the colony of Victoria particulars were obtained of the crushing of 876,692 tons of quartz in 1884, and 843,251 tons in 1885. The average yield per ton of these crushings was 9 dwt. 21·07 gr. in the former, and 10 dwt. 1·28 gr. in the latter year. From similar estimates, extending over the last ten years, and embodying information respecting the crushing of more than 9,000,000 tons of quartz, an average was obtained of 9 dwt. 12·19 gr. of gold to the ton of quartz crushed. The most productive gold mine in the colony has undoubtedly been that of the Long Tunnel Company at Walhalla. The total quantity of stone crushed was 302,670 tons yielding 473,275½ oz. of gold, or an average of 1 oz. 11 dwt. 6·56 gr. per ton. The region over which the gold-bearing quartz is believed to extend has an area of two or three miles; but as gold has for generations been found in the beds of Welsh rivers, and in a "pockety" form over large areas of the Principality, it is probable that deeper and systematic working, as in Mawddach Valley, would yield equally surprising results elsewhere.

As to the future of this undertaking, it may be stated that upon Mr Morgan's property forty-two lodes are distinctly indicated, and that upon his operations down to the present he has spent between £30,000 and £40,000. The purpose with which he has been so reticent hitherto has been to guard against the disastrous consequences that might have ensued if the gold resources of Wales, as soon as their character had become known, had fallen into the hands of speculators. Mr Morgan has now united in one comprehensive alliance all the various interests concerned in the auriferous region. It will be the ultimate task of this Association to explore each promising locality in turn and open it out. If it is found to be of a profitable character, a special company will be formed to work it, and the association or syndicate will then go on with the next site. If, on the other hand, the surface promises turn out to be delusive, the syndicate will mark the site off as one to which the public need not be attracted. Some of the greatest of financial houses in the city are in the syndicate, the capital of which is already more than provided.

Mr Finch Hatton, who has visited the mines, says that he was struck with the appearance of the country as a gold-bearing one. In Queensland the discovery of such a field would, he says, have been made long ago; and had it taken place in the colony by this time 50,000 men would have been on their way to it. The gold is found here, as in Queensland, at the junction of the Cambrian and the Silurian period—that is, of the igneous and the aqueous rock. No opportunity will at present be offered to the public of investing in the new enterprise, but we understand that operations on a large scale, and affording a large amount of employment to miners, will be begun forthwith.

On Saturday the *Times* published a letter from a shareholder of the late Gwynfynydd Gold Mining Company, in which he said the existence of gold on the Mawddach was known for half a century, but the question was would it pay to work the quartz. His experience was that the Gwynfynydd Company was started eighteen years ago, when there was plenty of quartz, and the assays were most gushing. A leading Liverpool engineer was the leading spirit, and the mine was worked by Australian miners. Extensive plant was erected, but

after working twelve months the assays proved to be delusions, and instead of yielding the anticipated three or four ounces per ton, the quartz only yielded as many pennyweights. The mine never paid working expenses, and the shareholders lost every sixpence of their money. He thought that was the fate of gold mining in Wales.

On the other hand the *Western Mail* publishes an extraordinary story to the effect that since July 11, when the lode was struck, gold of the value of from £100,000 to £150,000 has been stripped, and is ready to be broken down. Mr Morgan had spent £30,000 in the valley before he saw the colour of gold, and to the present time he had spent nearly £100,000 without having crushed any stone, except a small quantity by hand. Mr Morgan, it is said, has refused an offer of £100,000 for a fourth share of the mine; and it is added that all the quartz-bearing land in the district has been secured by a London syndicate, who have placed the management in Mr Morgan's hands.

In a letter to the *Times*, Mr W. Pritchard Morgan refers to the excitement which the discovery has caused, and says that although there is every indication that in the future gold-mining in North Wales will develop into a permanent and most important industry, still up to the present the only place in which gold has been discovered in payable quantities is at the Gwynfynydd mine and its surroundings.

The *Law Journal* raises the question as to the rights of the Crown, and says there can be no doubt that the right of property in gold and silver mines, wherever they be, within the realm, is in the Crown, unless the Crown has released its right by granting mines Royal.

DECEMBER 21, 1887.

NOTES.

THE PILLAGE OF OSWESTRY CHURCH.—

An extract from the *Birmingham Weekly Post* relating to Oswestry may be of interest to readers of *Bye-Gones*.

The following extract is taken from an early number of the *London Gazette*, before provincial newspapers had more than limited existence. A. W.

"The church at Oswestry, Salop, was pillaged on the 7th February, 1693, and a pulpit cloth and cushion, both of crimson velvet, the cloth richly embroidered, with the king's arms in the middle, on one side C R, and on the other 1631, together with 2 surplices, 2 black bier cloths, a carpet, 2 bibles, &c., stolen."

Newtown.

ALF. FORD.

QUERIES.

TANNATT OF ABERTANAT (Dec. 7, 1887).—Cannot CYMRU give some date, which would help greatly in getting a reply to his question. In Llanyblodwel Church is a monument with the inscription—"Here lieth the body of Susannah Godolphin, daughter of Rees Tanat, Esq., of Abertanat, and the last of the Tanats." This may mean the last in the main line. Lord Harlech is a descendant of the Tanats. M.L.

REPLIES.

SIGN OF THE CROSS (Dec. 7, 1887).—Our lady bakers in the country make this sign upon the flour in the kneading trough when "laying in sponge," for the bread to rise, I believe, mainly "because their mothers did so before them." It is,

nevertheless, undoubtedly, a popish superstition, as they expected a blessing upon their work, in the shape of lighter bread, from this recognition of our Saviour's sufferings. The sign of the Cross is made for several other purposes, and I remember when we went to school if we saw a magpie—that bird of ill omen—we scraped a cross on the road with our foot and spat in the middle of it; if the bird flew to the right it was a good sign; if to the left, a bad one. If there were a family of magpies, the good or bad luck was foretold by the number of them, and this was the legend:—

One for mischief,
Two for mirth;
Three for a wedding,
And four for death.

Bronygadfa.

J. J.

THATCH (Nov. 23, Dec. 7, 1887).—In olden times buildings were thatched or covered, i.e. top or roof covered with straw. That being the universal case, in process of time, the term to thatch or cover (for thatch I take it comes from *theccan* to cover) at once suggested the usual covering of straw or rushes, and so they became synonymous terms. If so, then the Oswestry children are engaged in restoring the word to its proper and original meaning. But whatever may be the case about *thatch* having been changed in its application from one set of materials to another, we have in Welsh a *bonâ fide* instance of this in the word *adeilad* (building.) In early British days, before stone houses were built, our ancestors dwelt in very primitive twig structures. Poles were driven into the earth in a circle meeting at the top, and leaving a small aperture for the egress of the smoke. Leafy twigs were then intertwined, and so it became an *adail-ad*, i.e., a thing made of *dail* (leaves.) From this we get our Welsh word *adeiladu*, and we use it for expressing the act of making a habitation, although the materials are quite different.

Rhiwlas.

R. DAVIES.

WELSH MAGISTRATES (Sept. 21, Oct. 5, 12, Nov. 4, 30, 1887).—I thank PEARMAIN for corroborating my statements. Very probably Henry VIII's Act was only strictly carried out during his and Elizabeth's reign. During Queen Elizabeth's reign Dr. Aubrey and Mrs. Blanche Parry were personal officers in her Majesty's Court, and they may—I do not say that they did—have succeeded in bringing about an exercise of the "Royal favour," and thus the statutory "*eight* county magistrates" may have been added to. PEARMAIN's last list contains 23 local names, and eleven official, the official consisting of nine officers of the Court of Marches (Ludlow Castle) and two judges. I have a list of Breconshire justices for 1680 (14 years later than PEARMAIN's last list), and it contains the names of 25 local magistrates. Evidently Henry VIII's stringent laws against the Welsh had an exception, although it did not prove the rule—I refer to this "*Eight Justice*" Act.

Brecknock.

EDWIN POOLE.

WELSH PEDIGREES (Nov. 23, 1887).—The following information may be useful to your correspondent "Z." Putting aside the numerous MSS. of *Achan y*

Saint, or Pedigrees of the Welsh Saints, some of which are as old as the 13th century, the oldest known collections of Welsh Pedigrees are (1) those found in *Harleian MS.* 3859, a MS. of the early 12th century; these pedigrees were originally compiled in their present form between the years 954 and 988. I have had them printed, and they will appear in the next number of *Y Cymmrodor*. (2) Those found in No. 20 of the MSS. of Jesus College, Oxford, a MS. of the 14th century, printed by me in *Y Cymmrodor*, vol. viii., pp. 83—92. These cannot have been put together earlier than the 13th century; they contain most of the genealogies of *Harl.* 3859 in a somewhat different form, and many others not in that MS. (3) The short "Cumbrian" genealogies in *Hengwrt MS.* 536, printed by Mr Skene in the Appendix to his (so-called) *Four Ancient Books of Wales*. This MS. is said to be of the 13th century. The oldest volumes of Pedigrees at Peniarth are, I believe, of the 15th century, but I have never examined any of the genealogical MSS. there; nor have I now by me the Catalogue to refer to. Besides the collections I have mentioned there are the following early authorities for Welsh genealogy—(1) The genealogy of the kings of Buallt in *Nennius* and the fragment of the pedigree of the kings of Powys on the Valle Crucis pillar, both of the first half of the 9th century. (2) Various genealogies and genealogical information scattered through the *Liber Landavensis* and Lives of the *Welsh Saints*, the former a MS. of the early 12th, the latter chiefly occurring in MSS. of the early 13th century. (3) The tract on Brychan and his children, of which the oldest version is found in a MS. of the early 13th century, and has appended to it a list of the descendants of Ceredig.

London.

E.P.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr Ellis Lever of Colwyn Bay, North Wales, took to Manchester last week from his seaside resort a beautiful bouquet of spring flowers grown in the open air. The bouquet included primroses and wood violets, wallflowers, stocks, roses, yellow jasmine, and snowdrops.

The chair of Logic and Philosophy in South Wales College vacated by the election of Professor Seth to the chair of Logic in St. Andrews, has been filled by the appointment of Mr R. W. Sorley, a distinguished graduate of the University of Edinburgh, and the author of the "Ethics of Materialism."

In the new illustrated quarto gift book, "The Abbeys and Churches of England and Wales" (Cassell and Company, London), the sketch of "The Priory Church of St. John, Brecon," has, by special request, been contributed by Mr Edwin Poole, editor of the *Brecon County Times* (an old Oswestrian).

At the meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, on Dec. 8, Mr W. de Gray Birch, by permission of the civic authorities, exhibited a sculptured stone with two female figures recently found in the city wall at Chester. This stone has lately been the subject of much controversy, Mr Thompson Watkin and others asserting it to be post-Roman, and to represent an ecclesiastic and attendant, while other authorities claim for it an undoubted Roman origin. The stone was carefully examined by the Fellows present, and pronounced to be of Roman date, while its claim to be of an ecclesiastical character was pointed out by Mr Waller, Mr Micklethwaite, and others to be utterly without foundation.

It will be remembered that one of the subjects mentioned at the annual meeting of the Shropshire Archaeological Society was the arrangement of the Shrewsbury Municipal Records, which now lie in a considerably confused, and indeed scattered, condition. At the Council last week, when a letter was read from Mr Goynne, the secretary of the Society, Mr Morris said he had in his possession two or three valuable documents which properly belonged to the Corporation! Mr Morris expressed his readiness to restore the documents if the suggestion of the Archaeological Society was carried out; but we should like to know how many more are in private possession. The Town Clerk said that as the records went back to Saxon times—from which fact we may form some notion of their value—and as they were a good deal knocked about by the changes at the Shire Hall, the expense of arrangement, which must be made by a practised hand, would be considerable. The matter was referred to a Committee, but it is to be hoped the Council of a town like Shrewsbury will not be Philistine enough to refuse the necessary grant. Shrewsbury has a history of exceptional interest; it has figured conspicuously in some of the most stirring episodes of the national life; and to leave the records a mere heap of useless rubbish would be disgraceful. If there were no other argument, the fact that in the absence of arrangement the Historical Manuscript Commission will not examine them, ought to be enough. At Oswestry we are fortunate in having had our archives edited by Mr Stanley Leighton. Is there one ready to do the same munificent service for Shrewsbury?

DARWIN'S BOYISH SIMPLICITY.—I must have been a very simple little fellow when I first went to school. A boy of the name of Garnett took me into a cake shop one day, and bought some cakes for which he did not pay, as the shopman trusted him. When he came out I asked him why he did not pay for them, and he instantly answered, "Why, do you not know that my uncle left a great sum of money to the town on condition that every tradesman should give whatever was wanted without payment to any one who wore his old hat and moved it in a particular manner," and he then showed me how it was moved. He then went into another shop where he was trusted, and asked for some small article, moving his hat in the proper manner, and of course obtained it without payment. When he came out he said, "Now, if you like to go by yourself into that cake shop (how well I remember its exact position) I will lend you my hat, and you can get whatever you like if you move the hat on your head properly." I gladly accepted the generous offer, and went in and asked for some cakes, moved the old hat, and was walking out of the shop, when the shopman made a rush at me, so I dropped the cakes and ran for dear life, and was astonished by being greeted with shouts of laughter by my false friend Garnett.—*Life and Letters of Charles Darwin.*

THE LATE MRS FANNY MYDDELTON BIDDULPH.—The will (dated 30th March, 1886) with a codicil has been proved of Mrs Fanny Myddelton Biddulph, late of 26, Grosvenor-place, who died on November 4th, and appoints as executor her cousin, Mr George Tournay Biddulph, of 43, Charing-cross, to whom she bequeaths £300, and directs that the expenses of her funeral shall not exceed £100, to include a gift of mourning to six poor

men and six poor women of Chirk who may attend her funeral; bequeaths £100 to the Denbigh Infirmary; £500 each to her grandsons Robert Myddelton and Algernon Biddulph; £300 to her nephew Robert Maude; £100 to Charles Maude; £100 to Dennis Lawlor, of Dewrinane, Waterville, county Kerry; £100 to Mrs Selina Williams; £100 to Mr C. Mytton; £500 to her maid, Harriet Durrant; £500 and her horses and carriages to her coachman, John Eden; £2,500 in trust for her daughter, Miss Biddulph, for her life, and on her decease £200 to the poor of Chirk, and a further £500 to Harriet Durrant, and numerous other bequests to friends; the residue to the said Robert Maude; and £1,000 in trust for the testatrix's daughter Alice, with the remainder to her son Richard, to whom she bequeaths the portrait of his father, presented to her by the county of Denbigh. The value of the personalty has been declared at £7,246 2s 10d.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

How to Write the History of a Family, by W. P. W. Phillimore, M.A., B.C.L. (London: Elliot Stock), is described as a Guide for the Genealogist, and enters very fully into the methods of the family historian, and the sources from which he draws his facts. To read this book is to learn how laborious must be the work of one who conscientiously writes the history of a family. The list of records and authorities printed and written which may contain material is almost bewildering to the unpractised brain, but shows how carefully Mr Phillimore has done his work. We may point out that in the list of County Archaeological Societies the Powys-Land Club is omitted, though few Societies have supplied more valuable information in the way of family and parochial histories; and we may be excused for thinking that the "several local magazines" should have included some which are published in Shropshire. But these are very small matters. Mr Phillimore begins with the Surname, to which, unless it is common, the origin and meaning should be given by the writer of the family history; and in this chapter he quotes from Dr. Farr some interesting statistics as to the number of Smiths, &c., on the registration indexes. Smith figures highest, at 33,557, Jones comes next with 33,341, and is followed by Williams, Taylor, and Davies before the reach Brown (14,346), who again is separated from Robinson (9,045) by Thomas, Evans, Roberts, and Johnson. Altogether fifty names are given in the table, and Griffiths comes last, with 4,639, following Carter with 4,648. In another table we see that more English surnames are found under B than any other initial, H coming next, then S, and then W, C, M, P, and R; the lowest being K, N, O, U, V, and Y; while Q, X, and Z, are followed by a nought. The other chapters deal with Heraldry (briefly), Kinship and Systems of Genealogy (at considerable length, the various degrees of relationship being described and illustrated by tables and diagrams), the Typography and Illustrations of the History, Portraiture and Anthropometry, and the Sources of Family History, to which two-thirds of the book are devoted, and as there is a good index, the information which is given as to Pipe Rolls, and Royal Compositions, and Calendars of State Papers, and much besides, will be useful to many besides the family historian. In one place we find a table of transcripts of parish registers, shewing the date of the earliest transcripts in each diocese, which for Lichfield was 1660, and St. Asaph the same, and mentioning how many parishes transmitted the transcripts and how many defaulted (but not naming them). In Lichfield in 1829 only 59 defaulted out of 608, and in St. Asaph all were sent in. But "it should be noted that in many dioceses the transcripts are unarranged, and therefore inaccessible," a fact which is not very creditable to the ecclesiastical autho-

rities. Another table contains the Heralds' Visitations of various counties, the date, the writer, reference to the original, and the person or society printing them. Salop is without a printer. Finally there is a chapter on American Genealogy; and we may well conclude with the words of the Bishop of Chester, quoted at the beginning of this chapter—"It is strange that while the study of genealogy used to be thought the sign of an obsolete, effete, and worn-out nation, at the present time in America the study of genealogy is drawing a larger expenditure of money, investigation, and literary power, than in any other country in the world." But we should add that the book is printed and got out in the comely style which we now always associate with the name of Elliot Stock.

Mr Andrew Lang, in his address to the gentle reader of the *Bookworm*, says—

Three kinds of companions, men, women, and books,
Were enough, said the elderly Sage, for his ends.
And the women we deem that he chose for their looks,
And the men for their cellars; the books were his friends.
"Man delights me not," often "nor woman," but books
Are the best of good comrades in loneliest nooks.

The *Bookworm* (Mr Elliot Stock's newest venture) is designed for the ardent lover of books, especially of books that are not very new. The first number consists of a large number of short articles, amongst the most interesting of which is one on "Queen Elizabeth's New Testament," bearing, in Elizabeth's own writing, the following inscription:—

Amonge good thinges
I prove and finde, the quiet
life doth muche abounde,
and sure to the contentid
mynde, ther is no riches
may be founde
Your lovinge
maistres
Elizabeth.

The book was presented by the Queen to one of her maids of honour. It will be news to many readers that John Wesley wrote a dictionary, of which we have here an account. It was entitled

The Complete English Dictionary, explaining most of those hard Words which are found in the best English writers. By a Lover of Good English and Common Sense. N.B. The Author assures you, he thinks this is the best English Dictionary in the World.

The preface contains a humorous vindication of the boast on the title page:—

I should add no more, but that I have so often observed, the only way, according to the modern taste, for any author to procure commendation to his book is, vehemently to commend it himself. For want of this deference to the publick, several excellent tracts lately printed, but left to commend themselves by their intrinsic worth, are utterly unknown or forgotten. Whereas, if a writer of tolerable sense will but bestow a few violent encomiums on his own work, especially if they are skillfully ranged on the title-page, it will pass through six editions in a trice, the world being too complaisant to give a gentleman the lie, and taking it for granted, he understands his own performance best. In compliance, therefore, with the taste of the age, I add that this little dictionary is not only the shortest and cheapest, but likewise by many degrees, the most correct which is extant at this day. Many are the mistakes in all the other English dictionaries which I have seen. Whereas I can truly say, I yet know of none in this; and I conceive the reader will believe me, for if I had, I should not have left it there. Use then this help, till you find a better.

Another book described here is a private Memorandum Book of George III., and a Metrical Olio of Charles II.'s time contains various specimens of wit, e.g.:—

A pedant asked a puny right and bold
In an hard frost the Latin word for cold,
"I'll tell you out of hand," quoth he, "for lo!
I have it at my fingers' ends, you know."

The first of a series of articles on "Grub-street and its Journal" should also be mentioned.

The *Antiquary* for December opens with a very interesting paper on "Open-Air Assemblies," by Mr Laurence Gomme, from which we learn that the following singular custom is still observed on Knightlow Hill, an artificial mound on the London road, about six miles from Coventry. On the top of the mound stand the remains of an old wayside cross, and

At this stone is annually collected for the Duke of Buccleuch by his steward on Martinmas Eve, before sun-rising, what is called "Wroth-money, or warth or swarff penny," and by some supposed to be the same as "Ward-penny," from various parishes in the Hundred of Knightlow. The ceremony commences by the steward inviting those present to stand round the stone, he standing at the east of the same, when he then reads "the charter of assembly," which is as follows: "Wroth-silver collected annually at Knightlow Cross by the Duke of Buccleuch, as Lord of the Manor of the Hundred of Knightlow." The parishes liable to the fee are then cited to appear, and each by their representative present cast the required sum into the stone.

Some of the parishes have to pay 1d., others 1½d., others 2½d., one as much as 2s. 3½d., and the fine for non-payment of these fees is twenty shillings for every penny not forthcoming, or else the forfeiture of a white bull with a red nose and ears of the same colour. It is stated that forty or fifty years ago the fine of a bull was paid by one of the representatives who failed to appear before sunrise. Papers on "Hawking," "London Theatres," "The Crosses of Nottinghamshire," "The Accounts of Edward IV.," "The Customs Revenue," &c., go to make up a number of varied interest; and in "Notes from Chester" the Roman stone recently discovered is described. We observe, by the way, that in this paper it is noted with satisfaction that only a comparatively small portion, a brick excrescence is to be removed from the house at the Cross, which we believe has been previously mentioned in this column; while Mr John Hewitt, of Hoole, writes to say that "the Town Council have very rightly ordered" the removal of the house, which has "nothing worth preserving!" When antiquaries differ! The collection of antiquarian news is an excellent feature of Mr Stock's publication. At the meeting of the Numismatic Society in October Mr A. J. Evans read a paper on a "Coin of a Second Carausius Cæsar in Britain in the Fifth Century," and

cited some striking coincidences between the legend on the coin and that on a sepulchral monument, presumably of fifth century date, referring to a Christian Carausius, and found at Penmachno in Carnarvonshire. The Carausius of the coin and the individual on the tombstone were certainly contemporaries, and not improbably one and the same person. The conclusion arrived at was that the usurpation of this Carausius Cæsar took place in 409, on the eve of the final separation of Britain from the Continental empire. The author showed that at any period much later than that year there was no place for a prince of imperial title in Britain. The present piece of numismatic evidence adds a new name to the roll of Roman emperors who ruled in Britain.

The following, signed Constance Everett Green, appears in the *Athenæum*. After mentioning two letters discovered some time ago in the Public Record Office, and never before published, the writer proceeds:—The first letter alludes to a projected rising in Shropshire, which, so far as I have been able to ascertain, never came to anything; but inasmuch as the Royalist or "Malignant" party, as it is here called, was of considerable strength in the north of England, and particularly in Yorkshire, Cheshire, and the borders of Shropshire, it was of great importance to avoid any rising in those parts. This letter is attached to a petition from Col. Crowne to the Protector, signifying that the messenger with the commission arrived at Shrews-

bury only one day before the projected rising, and that therefore he (Crowne) was obliged to raise a troop of fifty horse and foot from his own friends at a moment's notice; and praying repayment of the £37 it had cost him.

To Col. Wm. Crowne.

Sir,—It being justly to be apprehended that the Cavaleir Party intends a very evil designe, and to put it into a speedy execution. And that in the Parts about Shrewsbury which I p'sume they spetially intend these because of the weaknesse of the Garrison, and the multitude of Maligns there abouts, I thought fitt to send you downe Commissions for a Regemt for yo'selfe to command for theire encoaridgmt and Protection of their honest People, and the better securinge the Garrison of Shrewsburie, I desire you to repaire thither, and to advise with y^r friends about the same, and about some other Instructions I have given to the Governor there, to whom I have lately sent a troope of horse, I rest y^r loueing friend

OLIVER P.

Whitehall, 5 March, 54/5.

I have also herew^th sent you a Com: for a Troope.

DECEMBER 23, 1887.

NOTES.

ORIGINAL NAME OF BROGYNTYN.—It will be remembered that some time ago the name of Porkington (the seat of Mr Ormsby-Gore, afterwards Lord Harlech) was changed to Brogyntyn. A good deal of discussion was carried on in *Bye-Gones* at the time, as to the proper name and the meaning of Brogyntyn, and it was stated that Owen Brogyntyn (living 1215) derived his name from it. But I have just come across a deed 700 years old in which the name is spelt *Porchintoun!* Was not Brogyntyn perhaps a Welsh form of the original word? M.L.

QUERIES.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—I have been informed that an Agricultural Society for Montgomeryshire was formed in or about the year 1796. Has any account of the proceedings of this Society—its objects, mode and extent of operations, and the duration of its existence, ever been published, either in *Bye-Gones* or elsewhere? If not, can any reader of *Bye-Gones* furnish such particulars, as by now they would possess much interest? T.H.J.

[A similar Query appeared in *Bye-Gones* Sept 20, 1876, but no reply was received. It was in 1795 that, at a meeting of the Magistrates at Montgomeryshire Quarter Sessions, Lord Hereford proposed a resolution in favour of establishing a society, and it was unanimously adopted.—ED.]

REPLIES.

CARDINAL MANNING AT OSWESTRY (Nov. 30, 1887).—In reply to a letter addressed to Cardinal Manning, he states, through his private secretary, that he never was curate at Oswestry. W.O.

POPULATION OF WALES (Oct. 12, Nov. 9, 1887).—The word "fourth" was wrongly put for "fortieth" in the report of Mr Ellis Edwards's speech. Figures from which calculations as to the population of Wales can be made may be found in "Rees's History of Nonconformity," and Mr Henry Richard's Letters on Wales. E.E.

THE WILL OF THOS. WILLIAMS (Aug. 24, 1887).—Some clue to the identity of the above-named individual may be obtained from the fact that up to a

recent date Ceunant Farm, in the parish of Guilsfield—presumably the “Keynant” of the document quoted—belonged to the family of the Williamsons of Henllys, Manafon. The house named is a somewhat pretentious one, and, what is rather unusual at a farmhouse, has a sundial near the front entrance. T.H.J.

NATURAL TUNNEL NEAR OSWESTRY (Sept. 21, 1887).—I live within a mile of the spot on the Ordnance Map where a “natural tunnel” is marked (behind Park Hall), and I never heard of it. I have inquired of people living close by, and they know nothing of it. Can any old inhabitant who reads *Bye-Gones* explain the name on the map? S.

GWYDIR (Dec. 7, 1887).—Gwydir Castle stands close to the river Conwy, which in the days of Sir John Wynne split up here into numerous channels, and so turned the adjacent meadows into useless marshes. Sir John, by erecting strong quays and embankments, widening and straightening the river's course, reclaimed the land for more useful purposes than to be submerged by the waters of the Conwy. But previously to these operations the name Gwydir Castle was the most appropriate that could be selected, as it means the house of the *watery land*,—*Gwy* (water), and *dir* (land.) Thus the name means simply what it spells. In the district there is an abundance of names containing the *gwy* element, c.f. Llygwy, Gwynant, Elwy, Diganwy, Deirdwy, Llangwystenin, &c. R. DAVIES.

Rhiwlas.

CURE FOR WARTS (Dec. 7, 1887).—I myself have had these ugly excrescences removed by rubbing them with a black snail, and afterwards hanging it upon a thorn, but whether it was my faith in the “charmer,” young and beautiful, who charmed “never so wisely,” but well, or whether it was the slime from off the snail that excluded the air from the warts, and thus cured them, I cannot say, but this I do know, a snail, after being thus used, will die without piercing with a thorn, and that the oils of snails are very rich in healing properties. There are other charms for removing warts, one of which is to count them off, which is done by placing a grain of wheat upon each wart, and afterwards wrapping them in a neat parcel, and dropping them in the centre of “four cross roads,” where they were used to bury suicides and where it will be “finders, havens.” Then there is rubbing them with the inside of a bean-pod, and afterwards burying it; and this I know to be effectual, but then it may have been owing to the curative properties of “ye medicament.” There are also charms for stopping persistent hemorrhage, and for the relief of tooth-ache, likewise effectual. J.J.

HARVEST CUSTOMS (Sept. 28, Oct. 12, 19, 26, Nov. 9, 1887).—The quotation from the Rev. C. H. Hartshorne's *Salopia Antiqua* given at the first reference is, as “W.O.” remarks, manifestly incomplete. [Our correspondent here quotes from Hartshorne (p. 498) the dialogue which in substance has been given by previous correspondents.] An old newspaper cutting which finds a place in one of my commonplace books also gives an interesting account of the custom, written by a North-Salopian, Mr J. Winter. The same custom was, if it is

not even now, practised in Devonshire, where the last handful of the standing grain was called the “Nack.” On its being cut the reapers shouted “Arnack, arnack, arnack! (or as Brand has it ‘A Knack’) We have'n, we have'n, we have'n.” “Arnack” is explained to have meant ‘Our nag,’ and “we have'n,” “we have him,” so that the custom as practised in Shropshire and in Devonshire would appear to be practically identical. The curious may be interested to know that according to a writer in the “Gentleman's Magazine” for Feb., 1795, a similar practice used to prevail in the Isle of Skye.

Cardiff.

G.H.B.

TANNATT OF ABERTANAT (Dec. 7 and 21, 1887).—Edward Tannatt of Llangynog (son of Squire Edward Tannatt of Tanygraig, Llangynog), died from six to eight years ago, the exact year I do not remember. As “M.L.” suggests, the inscription in Llanyblodwel Church, “Susannah Godolphin, daughter of Rees Tanat, Esq., of Abertanat, and last of the Tanats,” means last in the main line. Susannah, who married Colonel Sydney Godolphin, Governor of the Islands and Garrison of Scilly, and Auditor of North Wales, was last of the main line, through Rhys the eldest son of Thomas Tannatt, Esq., ap Ieuan Lloyd Vychan. But Thomas Tannatt had a second son Thomas, who had a son Edward Tanat, Gent., of Neuadd Wen, who married Mary, daughter of Hugh Nannau of Nannau, Esq., and had two sons, Thomas Tanat and Nannau Tanat. Whether this line is extinct I know not. Again, Ieuan Lloyd Vychan of Abertanat had a second son, Geoffrey Tanat, who married the heiress of Trewylan, Llansantffraid, and had sons and daughters, of whom the eldest son's stock ended in a daughter who married Edward Pryce of Gwnle, in Forden. The second son, David, had issue, of which one David Tanat of Tredderwen, was living in 1700, and married a daughter of Arthur Corbet of Whittington, and had one son, John, and three daughters. The third son was Howel Tanat of Trewylan Issa, who had three sons, William, Howel, and John, and one daughter, Alice, all living in the year 1700. Then again there was Edward Tanat of Broxton, Esq., son of Rhys Tanat by his first wife, a daughter of Edward Kynaston of Hordley, Esq. The family of Tanats were consequently numerous, so that it is hardly correct to say that Susannah Godolphin was “the last of the Tanats.” [Vide Powysland Club Montgomeryshire Coll., vol. iv., page 151, and vol. viii., page 417.] Again, Ieuan Lloyd of Abertanat had, besides his eldest son (by his first wife) Ieuan Lloyd Vychan, a son (by his second wife) John Tanat. Whether there were any descendants of John I do not know. If “M.L.” or any one else can tell me from which of the above-named families the late Edward Tannatt of Llangynog is descended they will greatly oblige. The widow of Edward Tannatt is still living but very old, and can only in a vague manner remember hearing that the family came from somewhere near Llansantffraid. CYMRO.

CURRENT NOTES.

The death was recently announced of the Rev. R. L. Burton, M.A., of Shrewsbury, who was appointed vicar

of Holy Cross and St. Giles, in 1826, but some years ago retired from clerical work.

The Rev. Father Henry Bailey Maria Hughes, the founder of St. Tudwal's Monastery, died recently at Abersoch. He was the son of the Rev. Howell Hughes, rector first of Trefriw, Llanrwst, and afterwards of Rhoscolyn, Holyhead. Father Hughes was an extraordinary linguist, being able to preach in twelve languages, and speak in several more. His services as interpreter were greatly valued at the last great Vatican Council. He was the author of "A Romance of the Holy Wars," and several Welsh hymns. He was the nephew of the late Rev. Thomas Hughes, Calvinistic Methodist Minister at Carnarvon.

At the anniversary meeting of the Selden Society, which has for its object the editing and publishing of ancient legal documents, held in Lincoln's Inn Hall, on Saturday week, Mr Justice Wills said they threw a remarkable light on the early state of society and the conditions of life in this country from about the time of the eleventh century. There was, for instance, a remarkably early case of "boycotting," showing that there was really nothing new under the sun, either in this country or in other countries. The case was as follows: "The Abbot of Lilleshall complains that the bailiffs of Shrewsbury do him many injuries against his franchise, and that they have caused proclamation to be made in the town that none be so bold as to sell the Abbot and his men any merchandise, under the penalty of ten shillings, so that Richard Peche, the bedel of the said town, proclaimed this by their command, and the bailiffs defend all of it, and Richard likewise defends all of it, and that he ever heard any such proclamation made by any one. It is considered that he defend himself with eleven compurgators and let him come on Saturday with his law. Richard the Bedel's pledges for his law are Robert of Bray and Peter Pin."

SIR RICHARD HILL, who for many years represented Shropshire in Parliament, was a very constant speaker in the House, where the motley mixture of politics and religion which composed his harangues frequently excited considerable merriment. The author of "Criticisms on the Rolliad" has exhibited the peculiarities of the worthy baronet, though with too much severity, in the following passage:—

With wit so various, piety so odd,
Quoting by turns from Miller and from God;
Shall no distinction wait thy honour'd name?
No lofty epithet transmit thy fame?
Forbid it wit; from mirth refined away!
Forbid it scripture, which thou mak'st so gay!
Scipio, we know, was Africanus call'd;
Richard, styl'd Longshanks; Charles, surnam'd the Bald;
Shall these, for petty merits, be renown'd;
And no proud phrase, with panegyric sound,
Swell thy short name, great Hill? Here, take thy due,
And hence be call'd, THE SCRIPTURAL KILLIGREW.

YE OLD CHARACTERS OF OLD OSISTREE.—I remember "Minshull the Printer," whom "R. J." writes about, and it was not for certain considerations, it is not improbable that I might have claimed a distant relationship to him. Besides printing your "handbills," he would "do them up," into verse. I remember my father had a "ley for cattle" to advertise, and he ordered "posters" from Minshull, and this was what he printed:—

At Aston Park there is a lay,
To turn in on the twelfth of May.
"Water" is plentiful and good,
With "shade" as thick as any wood;
Ye who have colts or heifers got,
Go to John Rogers on the spot.

This is all that I remember, but from its unfinished look I conclude that there was a good deal more of the same sort. On the occasion of a wedding there was great rejoicing in the before-named "park," and Minshull got up the programme, and "named" the race horses. My father's mare was called "Black Sall from Walsall," and Dr Pryce Morris (who was succeeded by Dr Fuller) had a grey horse, which he "dubbed" "Pill-box"—each in some way characteristic of its owner. In the donkey races the "last in" was the winner, each man riding his neighbour's donkey, and "Didn't he wallop him; oh, dear, no!" Then there were "grinning" and "smoking" matches; and "bobbing for apples" in a tub of water, &c. Speaking of races, "Billy Smallbeer's" name, according to his own account, originated in a "winning horse" which was kept at the "Five Bells," and of which "Billy" was the trainer, and on his being asked by the "knowing ones" what he fed his horse with, he replied, "grains and small beer." When I knew him he was ostler at another inn, and from the frequency of his visits to it, he seemed almost a part of the Bailey pump, which is in sight of the *Tizer* publishing office, and when at noontide I went for

That cooling draught that washed my dinner down,
my right to it was frequently disputed by his firm adherence to the handle, and I somehow think that the real origin of his nom de guerre may be traced to his frequent visits to it, and their effect on the "tap" at the inn where he was ostler. "Lifting" or "heaving" at Easter was practised less than ten years ago in the neighbourhood of Oswestry. Monday was the boys' day, and on Tuesday the Amazons would have a gaily decorated chair in readiness; and, if I remember rightly, a worthy magistrate "underwent the operation," and had a "sudden rise in the world." The "Sugars," Dick and Ned, had each of them a herd of "Jerusalem ponies," "saddled" with panniers, which they drove before them, and with which they carried bricks along roads that were impassable to carts, or fetched "scouring sand" from Sweeney, for our scrubbing housewives of old (I wonder who supplies it now? Or has the march of civilisation rendered this exercise unnecessary.) Dick "Sugar," whose real name was Edwards, had a fighting dog—half terrier, half bull—hence the saying, "half and half," or "hafe an oaf," "like Dick Sugar's bulldog." There are other "characters" of that time worth portraying, but more of them anon. J.J.

CHRISTMAS AT WHITTINGTON, THEN AND NOW.

If this should meet the eye of Dr. How, I trust he will pardon me for travelling back for a quarter of a century in the journey of life, to see how Christmas was spent at Whittington about that time. Truly there are not many country rectors that are so tolerant to their parishioners, Churchmen and Dissenters alike, as was he. When he came to Ebnal to preach, he would frequently ask if any were ill at the Moors, the stronghold of the Primitives, and on being informed that such was the case, and that the patient was in need—it did not matter if it was a Nonconformist or not—a bottle of wine and half a crown would be sent forthwith. He likewise subscribed £5 annually to Preeshenlle British School. Each summer he invited every inhabitant of this parish—which I am told is seven miles long—irrespective of creed, to a "garden party," on the Rectory lawn, and there "high and low," "rich and poor," "gentle and simple," sat down together, under the shadow of a great spreading tree,

For while he feasted all the great, he ne'er forgot the small.

And here, to the pleasant jingle of the cups and saucers, the old "told the tales they had often told before," while the young indulged in athletic games, or "tripped on the light fantastic toe." The tithe rent dinner is now looked forward to with apprehension, I am afraid, by priest and people alike; then it was thoroughly enjoyed by both—indeed farmers have been known to regret that it did not come oftener. The genial Rector would always call upon a jolly old farmer from Babbins Wood for his song about the "Parson and the pig," in which a worthy clergyman is described as entering the sty to claim his "tenth," when he is attacked, and placed hors-de-combat by the old sow. As the singer was doubtful of its reception it was first given during the Rector's absence, but it was subsequently reported to him, and he ever afterwards called for it first. This shows a very rare absence of vindictive feeling. Can it be wondered that such a man is honoured by Royalty? Is it strange that his old parishioners flock to hear him on his annual "visitation," as they know that his "preaching" and his "practice" are identical? Or that she who shared his "joys" and "sorrows" should choose as her "final resting-place" the village "home" where she "loved" and "was beloved?" On Christmas morning, sometimes as early as two o'clock, the village choristers were used to assemble at the Rectory to an early breakfast, and then, accompanied by one of the clergy, go around the gentlemen's mansions and through the village, and awake the inhabitants from their peaceful slumbers by singing the

Great tidings of comfort and joy,
and then the Christmas "tea" and "concert." Although I was not then a resident in the parish, I was used to "deem it a privilege" to drive several miles to it, where all were welcome. In the "good times past" the farmers' wives each gave a "table," and, as they could then afford it, they were used to try to out-do each other in the splendour of their spread. Ah, yes! it *was* a tea; for variety of "meat pies" and "cakes" it would beat an American "supper" into fits. Afterwards the choir would sing their newest glees and madrigals, interspersed with Master Freddy's "Cork leg," and Mr John Jones's ever amusing, ever new, "Irish car," or—

My old wife is a good old creature,
My old wife is a good old soul;
Every morning for my breakfast
She gets me "hot toast and roll;"

the chorus of which, being well known, all joined in with a will.

Oh, memory! how pleasing are thy scenes, "when distance lends enchantment to the view." J.J.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES AT FARM HOUSES IN THE PAST.

Modern Economists tell us that our poverty and "depression" are partly owing to the fact that we waste too much of our means, in giving expensive "Christmas parties," instead of paying our "Christmas liabilities." Well, really it is so long since I have been invited to one of the former, that I have almost ceased to believe in their existence, except perhaps in the dictionary. In my younger days they were—I will not say common—but general; our neighbours gave a party and we gave a party, and every one of our visiting circle gave a party, each to pay each other back. Now my old mother was used to say that nothing was wasted that was absorbed into the system, and as I fed my neighbour, and my neighbour in return fed me, so nothing was here wasted. In America, when a man has a lot of work to get through, he invites his neighbours to help him, and they talk, laugh, joke, and feast over it, to make it enjoyable, and

call work "play." As we had no apples to pare, or pork to chop, we had a "pleasure bee," for social intercourse, romping, and merriment, instead. First there were the inevitable dances which commenced with the "triumph," in which the second gentleman leads off the first lady, her partner following in "pursuit," catching, and leading her back in "triumph"—down the middle again, and pousette; then there was the "dusty miller," danced with pocket-handkerchiefs, and "pop goes the weasel," finishing up with "Sir Roger de Coverley," or the "cushion dance," in which the "Queen of the ball," dances around the room, carrying in her hands a cushion, which she drops at the feet of the gentleman she most admires, and, kneeling upon it, is kissed, and falls in his rear, and he in his turn, with his "following," kneels at the feet of the "lady of his choice," and goes through the same ceremony, and so on, till all the company are up in a long string, when they roll themselves up into a compact mass, called a roll of tobacco, "and jump till they are all of a heap," when, amidst a general scramble, they each return to their seats. "Turn the trencher" was the "stock game" at Christmastide: the "trencher" was the wooden plate that was used for dinner, before "pewter" came in fashion, and when each man carried his "cutlery" in his pocket, and used the finger and thumb of his left hand as a fork, and the wooden "piggin and spoon" contained the broth, and the bright-hooped "noggin," the beer, for breakfast and supper. But to return to the game. When all the party were seated round, and numbered or named, a lady advanced to the middle of the room and spun the trencher round, calling out the name or number of a gentleman, who had to jump up and try to catch it before it fell, while she retired to his seat; if it fell before he caught it he had to "fork out" a "forfeit," say his watch, handkerchief, or some article of dress, which had to be redeemed by an act of penance, when the "forfeits" were "called," such as "forming a regiment of soldiers," which was done by each calling up another, until they were formed in two lines, when the order was given to "advance," "present arms," and "salute," lip to lip. Then there was "answering the postman," and "Oh, the mistletoe bough;" but I should weary my readers, and trespass on the space allotted to me, were I to attempt to give a complete list of the "games" and "forfeits" then practised, or of the "supper," and the "trifle," in which was placed a "wedding ring." Of course all the young and expectant were helped to this, as the partaker, upon whose plate it was found, was the first to be married "of all that jocund company." And then the hearty "goodbye" and "make haste and see us again," followed by the drive home by moonlight, in the clear, frosty air, with the "last new song" ringing in our ears, and the "happy dreams" that disturbed our "brief span of rest" as we recruited our energies for the next "Merry, merry, hey down derry," jovial Christmas party. J.J.

THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

MR. PHILLIMORE ON THE WELSH TRIADS.

Continued (Feb. 23, 1887.)

Of the many mysteries in which the circumstances of so many of the great battles that took place about the sixth and seventh centuries are enveloped, the most profound is that of the battle of Cattraeth. Unfortunately the Triads tell us nothing about this battle beyond the meagre statement that one of the three kindly escorts (tri gosgordd addfwyn) was that of Mynyddog at Cattraeth. This gosgordd Mynyddog is mentioned several times in the Gododin and the Gŏdodin poems, and one passage seems

to imply that it consisted of 300 men, of whom only one survived the battle, but whether this statement has any, or what relation, to one more frequently made in the poem, to the effect that 363 golden-collared chieftains (Welsh, *Eurdorhogien*) went to Cattraeth, of whom only three escaped, is not very clear. It seems from the poem itself that Mynyddog was one of the most important chieftains engaged in the battle, but who he was is quite uncertain, and Mynyddog is probably merely an epithet (meaning a mountaineer), not his real name. Mr Skene and Mr Stephens have identified him with the Aeddan before mentioned, but their identifications of the personages, localities, and date of the battle of Cattraeth are beset with great difficulties, and indeed seem to me to rest on no solid basis. The date is variously placed by the Welsh and Irish Annals in 611 or 613, and by the Saxon Chronicle in 606. This battle is just referred to in the Triad of the three Aelfeddog, an adjective which was evidently supposed to have meant "those who fought from their graves" (for which we should rather have expected *beddaerog*), for it is added that they were so called because they had avenged the wrong inflicted on them from their graves (*dial eu cam og eu bedd*). One of these *aelfeddogien* is said to have been Seldd, the son of Cynan Garwyn, Prince of Powys, to whose death at the battle of Chester both Welsh and Irish Annals bear witness. With the mythical portion of this Triad I have of course no concern here, but I may say that the belief that a man's spirit had the power of avenging his death on the murderer is a well-known one in Irish legend. A striking instance of "*Dial cam o'i fedd*," revenge for wrong from the grave, in the literal sense of these words, is to be found in the legend of Caer, or Caohar, from whose grave a splinter flew for a distance equivalent to the length of a mast, into the eye of the person whose charms had caused his death. The Welsh Annals mention the death of Iago ab Beli in the same year as the battle of Chester. They use the word "*domnitatio*," sleep, of this event, which, I believe is never used of a violent death. We must therefore reject the statement of the Triad, that he was slain by his own man (*ei wr ehun*) by an axe-blow on the head, which is related to have been the third of the three foul murders of Britain. Later versions of the Triads state his murderer to have been Cadafael, of whom more hereafter, but as this usurper occupied the throne of Gwynedd in 654, it is hardly likely that he could have killed Iago in 613. It is probable that some action connected with this war is meant by the battle called in Welsh "*Gwaith Perllan Vangor*," the battle of Bangor Orchard, in the Triads. The great battle itself is called the battle of Chester (*Caerlleon*, in old Welsh, *Caerlegion*) in all the historical authorities, and thus could not have taken place at Bangor-Iscoed, which is some miles from Chester, though, of course, we know from Bede that some monks from Bangor accompanied the Welsh forces, and were slaughtered by the pagan Ethelfrith. The Triad referred to is as follows:—Three sustainers (porthor) of the battle of Bangor Orchard, Gwgon Glledyfrudd, Madog, son of Rhun, and Gwion, son of Cyndrwyn, and three others on the side of Lloegr, Hawystl Drahog (the overbearing), Gwaedgym, or Gwaethym Herwaden, and Gwiner. Here "*porthor gwaith*" is a similar expression to "*porthloedd byddin*," "sustainer of the host," or "*post cad*," "pillar of battle." Gwgon Glledyfrudd (the Red-sworded) is in another Triad mentioned as one of the *Esgemydd Aereu*, which means "supporters of conflicts," and was a sufficiently important personage in Welsh story to have his grave pointed out by tradition in a far later age. Gwion, the son of Cyndrwyn (the last not at all a common Welsh

name) was possibly a brother of the far better known Cynddylan, son of Cyndrwyn, prince of the district round Vriconium or Caer Wrygon in Shropshire, who is supposed to have met his death in 577, and to be identical with the Condidan mentioned in the "*Saxon Chronicle*" as slain by the West Saxons in that year. Of the names mentioned as those of combatants on the Saxon side, I can make nothing. Hawystl is I believe a Welsh woman's name, common in pedigrees, and thus is simply puzzling, the other names, or at least the first of them, seem corrupt. There is possibly an allusion to this poem in that curious jumble of history called the "*Anrheg Urien*," of which the oldest MS. is published in "*Y Cymrodor*," vol. 7, where the following lines occur:—"*Deutu Aerfen diffwys dilen dyddaw lwydd Selyf delyit*," ("On the banks of the Dae on a bare slope there will come a host, Selyf has been captured.") "*Cochliw lafnue, trwy valch erliriu am frwytheu gwydd*," ("Red-stained blades amid overbearing words around the fruit of trees.") If these two passages are to be taken together, the allusion is certainly to a battle in which one Selyf (perhaps the same as fell at the battle of Chester) took part, in an orchard on the banks of the Dee, upon which river it will be remembered the Monastery of Bangor (Iscoed) in Maelor, is situated.

The next important epoch of Welsh History is that of the war between Edwin, who succeeded to the throne of Northumbria in 616, and Cadwallon, King of Gwynedd, during which, we are informed by Bede, that the former conquered Anglesey, the central seat of the Venedotian Kingdom, and by the old *Annales Cambrie* that he besieged Cadwallon in Ynys Glanog (now called Ynys Seiriol or Puffin Island, opposite Penmaenmawr) in 629. How the Welsh King succeeded in extricating himself from this beleaguement we are not told, but all our authorities unite in stating that in the very next year, with the aid of his ally, Penda, King of Mercia, he defeated Edwin, and slew him and his sons in a great battle at a place called Meigen by the Welsh, and Haethfelth by the English writers. Immediately after this battle Cadwallon carried the war into Northumbria, which he desolated with the most savage, and as Bede says, with a worse than Pagan barbarity, but the next year (631) he was slain by Oswald, the new King of Northumbria (son of the Ethelfrith already mentioned) at a battle called the battle of Heafenfelth or Heaven-field by the English, and Cantscaul or Catscaul by the Welsh writers, a locality fixed at St. Oswald's, in the neighbourhood of Hexham, and not far from the Roman Wall. The Welsh name of this battle has been somewhat too ingeniously explained as meaning *Cad is gwaub*, the battle under the wall, but the natural explanation of Catscaul as it stands is to take it as meaning the battle of the *Scaul*, the oldest Welsh form of *Ysgol* or ladder, a name by which a steep mountain escarpment is still known in Wales, as in *Ysgol* or *Ystol Felen*, the fine escarpment of Glyder Fawr towards Cwm Padrig, near the Llanberis pass, so-called from the yellow-coloured grass which chiefly covers it.

All the historical writers represent Cadwallon as having here met his death, and the more modern writers, such as Mr Skene, who suppose that he survived, base their theory partly on the veracious history of Geoffrey of Monmouth, and partly on a transparent error of a Welsh scribe, who, by mistaking an *o* of the Hiberno-Saxon writing for a *b* (a very easy mistake to make) has mis-transcribed Cadwallon's name, and

written it *Catgublaun* instead of *Catguolan* in the passage speaking of his death. Had they consulted the Welsh Historical Triads they could not (as I will shew later on) have imagined (as they have done) that the Cadafael, King of Gwynedd, who fell at Winwedfield in 656, was the same person as Cadwallon.

Cadwallon's grandfather Iago, as we have seen, died in 613. The original stone set up over the grave of his father Cadfan, which reads, "Hic jacet Catamanus, sapientissimus, opinatissimus omnium regum," ("Here lies Cadfan the wisest, most renowned of all Kings,") still exists the only extant monument of any early King of Wales, at Llan-gadwaladr, close to the site of the Royal Palace of Aberffraw, in Anglesey. But of Cadfan's life, the date of his death, and the history of North Wales in his reign, we know absolutely nothing. It must be to the period between his death and 629, when Cadwallon was besieged by Edwin's fleet in Puffin Island, that the Welsh King's exile in Ireland mentioned in the Historical Triads, and distinctly referred to in poems in the Book of Taliesin, must if historical be referred; for it cannot have taken place during and been the consequence of Edwin's conquest and occupation of Anglesey, the intention of which is shewn by the name Anglesey, "the Angles' Island," then given it by Edwin, and which it has curiously enough retained ever since, to have been the final annexation of that island to the English dominions. The reference to Cadwallon's sojourn in Ireland is found in the Triad of the "Three loyal retinues" of which the first is said to have been that of Cadwallon. One version appends the words *yny buant hualogion* ("till they were fettered"), from which it is evident that the retinue alluded to is that of Cadwallon Law Hir, whose exploits have already been mentioned; but the other version is absolutely different, and speaks of his retinue as "that of Cadwallon ab Cadfan, who were seven years in Ireland with him, and during that time asked for no support from him, being bound by their promise not to do so."

It is very curious that Welsh poetical and other tradition should have so little to tell as it has about a Welsh King with such a strikingly dramatic, and latterly brilliant career as Cadwallon. There is indeed a poem found in MSS. of the fourteenth century, and published in Skene's "Four Ancient Books," of which the object is to enumerate the battles fought by Cadwallon. But though it opens by saying "that he fought 14 battles and 60 skirmishes for the sake of fairest Britain," and specifies 15 battles in the lines that follow, it only mentions one of his two great battles mentioned in the Annals, whilst both this one, and all, or at any rate nearly all, the others are certainly within the limits of modern Wales. Moreover, the localities of the battles, nearly all of which can be identified, are such as make it impossible that more than a few of them can have been fought between 629 and 631. Nor is it clear against whom he can have fought the battles placed in South Wales, for we have no record elsewhere either of Edwin having conquered, or Cadwallon having invaded that country. The fact that no mention is made of the most remarkable portion of Cadwallon's career, the invasion of Northumbria, shows that the poem embodies tradition in a comparatively late form. The poet's notion was evidently to select such battles as should give the idea of Cadwallon making a triumphant progress all round Wales. This will appear from the following abstract of, and commentary on, the contents of the poem.

The Triplets of which the poem is composed all begin with the words "Lluest Cadwallon," "the camp of Cadwallon," and then give the names of the places on which he is said to have successively encamped. The first en-

campment named is that on the Ceint, apparently the river of that name in Anglesey. This, probably, represents the winning of Anglesey from the English. The next is on the Yddon or Iddon, unidentified, but there was a place called Pwll Yddon in the neighbourhood of Llanrwst, and one called Aber Yddon in that of Dolgelley. The next is on the Mynydd Digoll or "Long Mountain" on the borders of Shropshire and Montgomeryshire, where he is poetically said to have remained seven months and fought seven battles daily. Next he is said to have encamped "on the Severn beyond Dygen," while the "devourers were burning Meigen." *Dygen* or *Dygenfreidden* was the old name for the well-known Breidden Hills, at the foot of which flows the Severn, and this casual allusion to Meigen shows that it must have been a well known place in the neighbourhood of this range. Cefn Digoll or Long Mountain is close to the Breiddens and the Severn, and the probable explanation of the discrepancy found in the poem, when it enumerates fifteen battles of Cadwallon, after saying in the first stanza that he only fought fourteen, is that the battle of Digoll and that of Meigen were only parts of one and the same battle. Mr Silvan Evans has long ago pointed out that the passage of this poem, where the locality of Meigen is mentioned, is decisive against the usually accepted theory that identifies Heathfield, the English name for the place where the battle was fought, with Hatfield, in Yorkshire. Here English historians have something to learn from Welsh writers. To return to the poem, Cadwallon is next said to have encamped on the Wye, next at Ffynon Bedwyr, or Bedivere's Well, said by Pughe to be in the upper part of Gwentllwg, on the borders of Gwent and Morganwg; the next on the Taf, evidently the Glamorganshire one; next on the Tawe, in Western Glamorganshire; next beyond Caer Gayc, a Roman City, of which the ruins existed in the 15th century near Cynwyl Caio, in Western Carmarthenshire; next on the Cywyn, a river, in the south of the same county, joining the Pembroke-shire Taf near Llanddowror (here the men of Lloegr, or English, are mentioned as his opponents); next at the extremity of Penfro, i.e., the promontory south of Milford Haven; the next on the Teifi; the next on the River Duffrydd, a river mentioned elsewhere, but unidentified; the next in the upper part of Bro Dunod, a cantref, including Bifonydd and Ardudwy; the next on the Menin, or Mynin, apparently a river, but not identified.

Now let us see what the Triads have to say about Edwin's wars with the Welsh, besides the allusion to his flight to Ireland already mentioned. They allude to his conquest of Anglesey, and call him one of the *Tair prif ormes Môn a fagwyd ynddi*, or three chief scourges of Anglesey, which were bred there, the other two being Daronwy and the Cath Balug, the former a personage and the latter a creature belonging entirely to the domain of Welsh legend. The words "a fagwyd ynddi," are primarily used of the Cath Balug, but seem also to apply to Edwin, and if they do, the allusion must be to a tradition, only found as far as I know in Geoffrey of Monmouth, but which may perhaps have a historical basis, that Edwin was brought up together with Cadwallon in Anglesey. For it is not impossible that the English King may have taken refuge in Anglesey, as we know that he did in East Anglia, for part of the period during which his kingdom of Deira was usurped by Æthelfrith of Bernicia, a period which ended in 616.

The battle of Meigen is mentioned in a curious and obscure Triad, the subject of which is the three errands given from Powys (*tair neges a gaut* or *Bowys*.) One of them is said to have been to fetch Myngan from Meigen

as far as Llansilin by the forenoon of the next day, to receive his instructions (cynneddau) from Cadwallon the blessed, after Ieuf and Griffrí had been slain. The second was the fetching of Griffrí from Bryn Griffrí by the next morning, as he was returning against Edwin (for I suppose that must be meant by the words *wrth ymchaelu ar Edwin*.) The circumstances to which this Triad refers are all unknown, except that the juxtaposition of Meigen, Edwin, and Cadwallon, shews that some events connected with the battle of Meigen must be referred to. But who Myngan (a name appearing in Ireland as Mongan, and meaning a man with a large *mwng* or shock of hair) may have been; who Ieuf or Griffrí; where Bryn Griffrí, apparently called after the latter, was situated; why Cadwallon is here called Bendigeid, or the *blessed*, a name usually given to his son Cadwallader, and never elsewhere to him—all these points are shrouded in mystery. The only quarter from which we can now look for the enlightenment of these and similar difficulties, is to the great body of unexplored and unpublished Welsh medieval poetry, which is full of historical and legendary allusions.

Llansilin is, of course, in the immediate neighbourhood of Meigen, if the locality assigned above to the latter name be correct.

The battle of Digoll is mentioned in the Triad of the three pollutions of the Severn. The first was when Cadwallon went to the battle of Digoll and the army of Wales with him, and Edwin on the other side and the army of England with him, and then it was that he polluted the Severn from its source to its mouth. The last statement cannot of course be taken quite literally. The terms in which the battle of Meigen is mentioned in the poem already commented upon, present a striking analogy to those in which the battle of Digoll is mentioned in the Triad. The Triad speaks of the battle of Digoll as discolouring the Severn, the poem speaks of Cadwallon's camp on the Severn in connection with the battle of Meigen, and also mentions Meigen as situated on the other side of the Breidden Hills, which are close both to the Long Mountain and the Severn. Probably, as I have already suggested, the two battles were parts of a continuous series of battles ranging over a considerable extent and occupying more than one day.

The Triads furnish us with some most interesting and valuable particulars, not to be found anywhere else, relating to a war carried on by one Belin or Cynfelin (called also in some Triads Melen or Belen) with Edwin in Northern Denbighshire about this period. Both the *gosgordd* (escort) and the *teulu* (retinue), (whatever may have been the difference between these two bodies) belonging to this chief are mentioned in the Triads. His *gosgordd* is simply named as one of the kindly escorts (*gosgordd addlwyn*) otherwise *gosgordd adwy* (escorts of the passes), but his *teulu* or retinue is mentioned more fully as one of the *hualogion teulu*, or fettered retainers, who chained themselves together with their horse fetters in the manner previously described, when fighting with Edwin at Bryn Edwin in Rhos. Rhos is the district of Denbighshire between the lower courses of the Clwyd and Conwy, but Bryn Edwin (in Gwilym Tew's version of the Triads called Bryn Cenen) has never been identified. Belin himself is described in these two Triads respectively as of Llleyn and of Llleyn Erethlyn in Rhos. Here Llleyn cannot possibly refer to the well-known district of that name, and the word must be used in its original sense of a strip or slang of land or territory. The name of Erethlyn is well known, it is that of a small river in Rhos, running into the Conwy at Bodnod, below Talycafn, now perverted into Bodnant, as the name of the stream has been

tortured into Hiraethlyn in order to make it harmonize with the neighbouring mountain, but it is called Erthlin in a charter of Edward III. and Tir Ethlin (for which we should read tir Erthlin or Erethlin) in the Black Book of Carmarthen, and Erechthlyn in pedigrees in which the writers, not knowing whether to write the word with a *ch* or *th*, have liberally inserted both. I believe that the Belin referred to is identical with the personage of that name (never previously identified), whose death in the old *Annales Cambriæ* is recorded under the year 627, which date would fit in admirably with that of the beleaguering of Cadwallon in Ynys Seiriol or Puffin Island, stated by the same authority to have been 629; for Edwin, if he invaded North Wales about this period, and if his invasion was not wholly by sea, must necessarily have passed through, and subdued Rhos on his way to Môn and Arfon, the nucleus of the power of the kings of Gwynedd. In any case I can find no other Belin mentioned in Welsh history or literature whom it is possible to identify with the Belin whose death is recorded in 627, who must have been a person of considerable importance to have his obit recorded in the *Annales*, the entries in which for the period in question are few and meagre indeed.

No mention is made in the Triads of the *Strages Sabrina*, or slaughter of the Severn, a battle which took place in 632. To these two words the *Annales*, with unusual liberality, add two more, *Jugulatio Idris*, the execution of Idris. *Jugulatio* is the word invariably used for the slaughter of a person otherwise than in battle. From this we may conclude that Idris was the defeated party. The Irish Annals mention this battle and carry us a step further, for they call Idris *Ri Breathan*, i.e., King of the Britons or of Wales. He therefore belonged to one of the Welsh Royal lines, and we accordingly find an Idris among the Royal line of Meirionydd, who must have lived exactly about this time, sixth in descent from Cunedda, fourth from Meirion, and second from Gwrin Varfdrwch, called in the *Cognacio de Brychan Gwriad barmbtrwch de Meirionydd*, and perverted by later tradition into a mythological Gwrgant Varfdrwch. I need hardly say that the original Meirionydd was confined to the country between the Dyfi and the Mawddach, all north of the Mawddach being called Danodig in ancient times. Possibly it is from this Idris that Cader Idris derives its name. Who was his opponent at the battle of the Severn, and what the political significance of the battle or the events that led to it, are a complete mystery. When next we hear of the throne of Gwynedd, viz., in 654, it is occupied by a plebeian usurper, although Cadwalader Fendigaid, son of Cadwallon and its rightful owner, was still living. I have dwelt on Idris at this length somewhat unwarrantably—for he is not mentioned in the Triads—and my excuse must be that no one has previously attempted to identify him, and that Mr Skene, with a singular want of historical candour, of which this is not the only instance, deliberately suppresses in his sketches of the history of this period any mention of the battle at which he fell. . . . No mention is made by the Triads of the final overthrow of Penda and his numerous Welsh and English allies at the battle called by the old Welsh Chronicle and *Annals Strages Gai* or *Gai Campi*, the slaughter of the plain of Ga or Gai (Campus Gai); by Bede and the English writers the battle of the river Winwaed or of Winwedfeld; and in the Book of Taliesin the Gweith ar Winfedd, or battle on the Gwinfedd. The old Welsh Chronicle says that at this battle Cadafael, king of Gwynedd, alone of all the princes who were engaged, drew off his forces by night, whence he was

called Cadafael Cadommedd, a punning phrase on his name, Cadafael, meaning "the battle seizer who refuses battle." But this Cadafael does not appear in any other Annals or Chronicles or Genealogies. The explanation is to be found in the Triads and nowhere else. There is a Triad which enumerates three kings who were the sons of serfs (meibion eillion) Gwriad, the son of Gwriad, in Cumbria (yn y Gogledd) Cadafael, son of Cynfeddw, in Gwynedd, and Hyfeidd, son of Bleiddig, in Deheubarth. Nor is this the only demonstration of the historic value of this Triad. Gwriad is also not to be found in the Genealogies of the Cumbrian or Strathelyde line of kings, and the only historical record which mentions him is the Irish Annals of Ulster, where the death of Gwreit, king of Alclud, appears under the year 658. Hyfaidd is unfortunately not mentioned by any other historical document, but a chief called Hyfaidd Hir, evidently a person of some importance and perhaps identical with this usurping prince, has several stanzas dedicated to him in the Gododin, but this does not enable us to fix his date until we know the date of that battle. The exact coincidence in dates between the reign of the two usurpers, Cadafael in Gwynedd and Gwriad in Strathelyde, looks as if a general revolution of the eillion or serfs against the dominant caste, throughout those two Kingdoms, had followed the defeat and death of Cadwallon, and the disorganization into which the Welsh Kingdoms were probably thrown thereby. But of this revolution no other record remains.

Of the reign of Cadwaladr we know nothing. The Triads do not mention him, except to say that he was murdered, and the Annales merely state that he died in a great plague in the year 682. There can be no doubt that the years that followed the utter overthrow of the United Welsh and Mercian forces at Winwedfield in 654, were very dark ones in Welsh history. A reason for the almost complete silence observed by the Welsh Annals for this period is to be found in the virtual subjection of the whole Welsh race to the Saxon and Anglian power. A proof of the complete subjection of at least the richer districts of Southern Cumbria is to be found in the grant by Egfrid

to St. Cuthbert, of Carlisle, and the country 15 miles round, and the still more characteristic donation of Cartmel in Furness *with all the Britons on it*, words that might well have been borne in mind by the stupid historians of Cumberland, who maintain against all probability that the Welsh element was practically extirpated from the district represented by that county. The utter defeat of the king by whom these donations were made, by Byrddei ab Beli, king of the Picts, but son of the Welsh King of Strathelyde, in Forfarshire in 686 enabled, as Bede testifies, many of (though not all) the Welsh to throw off the foreign yoke. Among those who regained their full liberty were certainly those of Northern Cumbria (i.e. Cumbria north of the Solway.) As to Carlisle and Southern Cumbria, roughly represented by modern Cumberland and parts of the neighbouring English counties, we have no certain information. Under the year 722, in the *Annales Cambriae* three battles are given in which the various branches of the British race, including the Cornish, were simultaneously victorious, and it has been reasonably presumed that this year marked the epoch of the final emancipation of a great part of the British race from the yoke of the foreigner. It is to be noted, however, that although deaths of the Kings of Alclud or Strathelyde are recorded under the years 722 and 750, no king of North Wales is mentioned in the Annales between the death of Cadwaladr in 682 and that of Rhodri in 754. The Triads, as far as I can ascertain, mention one, and only one, historical event after the middle of the 7th century, and that is in a *local* Triad (which seems to stand rather apart from the rest, and only occurs in the Red Book version), viz., that of the three Powysian errands. The last of these is said to have been the summoning of Hywel ab Ieuf from Maen Gwynedd (a pass on the Berwyns, near Llandrillo, in Edeyrnion) to Ceredigion to fight with Iago and Ieuf in that conflict. This certainly seems to refer to the invasion of Ceredigion in 954 by Iago and Ieuf, sons of Idwal, mentioned in the *Brut y Tywysogion*, under the year 952. Ieuf had a son Howel, who reigned in 972, and devastated Clynno in 977.

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